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# REPORT

OF THE

Trial of the Libel Suit of Dr. G. S. Howard, of  
Carleton Place, Ont., against the "Montreal  
Star."—Reprint from the "Star," 1898.



**SIR WILLIAM MEREDITH, Chief Justice of Ontario,**  
**IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE JURY:**

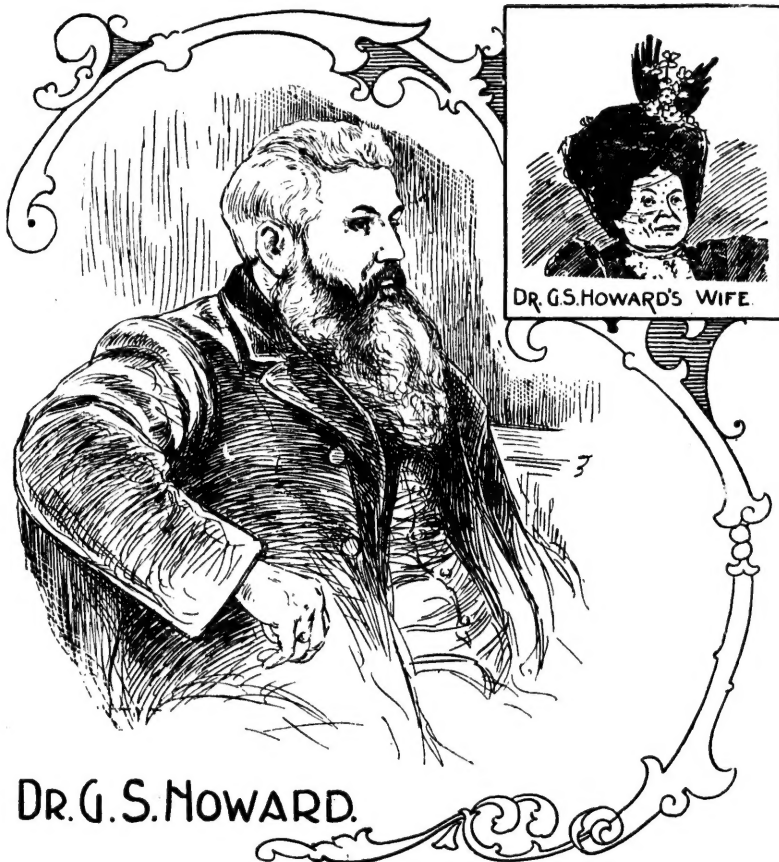
"No man can calculate the harm such a man might do in this community, if such a man as he is alleged to be had come into this country; one would feel sympathy at all events with the sentinel who warned the people against him."

"That man dare not have his past unearthed. He cannot fence himself here, as he did in the examination for discovery, by saying, 'I decline to answer that question.' He has got to if he goes into that box."—  
From the address to the jury by Mr. OSLER, Q. C. (of Toronto), representing the defense in the trial.

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**‘The case before the Jury practically simmers down to this: Is Howard a Brahmin-Indo-Philosophical Zealot or a Simple Charlatan?’—From the Star, April 27, 1898.**

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**“He obtained complete control over women because they are very susceptible, and got complete possession of the will of Mrs. Specht. Through her, he extracted Money, Diamonds, and all for the benefit of this Order. The Order turned out, however, to be his individual self.”**

**—From the address to the Jury by Mr. Osler, Q. C. (of Toronto), representing the Defense in the Trial.**

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# SALUTATORY.

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The following editorial appeared in the Montreal Daily Star, in the issue of Wednesday, May 4, 1898:

**"A mixture of Brahminism, Eastern Philosophy, Christianity and Religious Quackery. We hope the work has not been transplanted to Canada."**

## THE SAGE OF ARU.

The suit of Dr. Howard, of Carleton Place, Ontario, against the Star for libel, is probably the most remarkable action ever tried in Canada. The evidence, of which we have published a very full report, forms an astounding story of educated credulity and religious quackery. According to the evidence, Howard tried, or pretended to try, to establish on this continent a new religion composed of a mixture of Brahminism, Eastern Philosophy and Christianity. There was a good deal of occultism in the new religion and a good deal of balderdash about its rites and ceremonies. To say that Howard occupied an exalted position in the new dispensation is to state the case very mildly. He was known to his converts as "the Master," we beg pardon, "the Reverend and Respected Master, the Sage of Aru." The Sage was entitled to wear a green silk robe (not sage green) and to carry a sword with which to slay the "Elementals." We are not quite sure what elementals are, but apparently they are frisky little devils which inhabit human beings, trotting horses, yellow dogs and witness boxes. At any rate, the Sage and the elementals appear to have given a great deal of trouble to each other. Then the Reverend and Respected Master appeared to have been the only member of the order on this continent who was capable of controlling its finances.

Of course, as he states in one of his letters, he might have sent to India "for a member of our Order of the Viasya Caste," but the gentleman from the East would have been under the disadvantage of being ignorant of the manners and customs of this continent. So, very reluctantly, Howard, in addition to his spiritual and philosophic labors, had to take the responsibility of looking after the cash as well. The wealthy Specht family, of Gunston Hall, Va., were among the early converts. Mrs. Specht was and is a cherished member of the Howard flock, but the Sage now looks upon Mr. Specht as the Rev. Mr. Stiggins looked upon the elder Weller, as "a man of wrath." Mr. Specht was evidently a devoted husband, a

man of good principles and of kindly disposition. To please his wife he gave five thousand dollars to the order, and probably had this been the only sacrifice he was called upon to make "the work" might still have been going on in Virginia. But according to his statement, largely corroborated by other witnesses, he saw himself confronted with more serious risks. His wife was under the control of Howard, his home was bequeathed to Howard, his own liberty was mortgaged to Howard, and then it is not surprising that he got out a warrant for the arrest of Howard.

The Sage says he did not run away from the warrant; but at any rate, he came to Canada, leaving "the work" and the property of the order behind. Perhaps he felt hurt at Specht's want of faith and took this means of manifesting his disapproval. Some time afterward Mrs. Specht followed him to Carleton Place, where she, the erstwhile mistress of Gunston Hall and leader of society in St. Louis, has been living in his house and getting her meals at a hotel. There is a good deal of the ludicrous in this story, but the smile is always very near the tear. The chief result of "the work" is seen in ruined homes, in wives separated from their husbands and mothers from their children. We hope the work has not been transplanted to Canada. This is a free country, and men can teach almost anything they like in the way of religion; they can teach the worship of the devil if they like, and the only remedy is publicity. If the Howard school of philosophy has now got more publicity than it wanted, the fact is due to the blunder of the Sage. His horoscope was at fault. We do not think that he will find this climate favorable to the development of the new religion. At any rate, our advice to the people of Lanark county is: "Do not allow your wives to study Eastern philosophy."

# DR. HOWARD vs. THE STAR.

Trial of a Twenty-Five Thousand Dollar Suit at Perth.

## THE SAGE OF ARU AND HIS INDIAN OCCULT SCIENCE.

Breaking Up of a Respectable Southern Family—Thousands of Dollars That Were Never Accounted For—Dr. Howard, Hypnotist—Said to be in Montreal at Present—He is Wanted in the Neighboring Republic for Alleged Frauds on one of His Victims.



**Dr. G. S. Howard, Sage of Aru and Manufacturer of Patent Medicine at Carleton Place, Ont.**

The alleged libel was published in the Montreal Star June 4, 1894, the plaintiff having allowed nearly four years to pass before entering his action. The article in full reads as follows:

Washington, D. C., June 4.—Unless some hitch occurs in securing his extradition, Dr. Granby S. Howard, who is alleged to have swindled Mrs. Joseph H. Specht, of Gunston Hall, Va., wife of a



wealthy St. Louis clothing dealer, out of \$5,000, will soon be lodged behind the bars of Fairfax county gaol. The Commonwealth Attorney of that county has been informed that Howard is in Montreal, and is now in communication with the police authorities of that city with a view of his detention until government officials can secure the co-operation of the State Department in securing extradition. Negotiations to that end are now in progress, and the Fairfax authorities are confident that Howard will be brought to trial. There is said to be a strange story of alleged hypnotic influence connected with the affair. Howard is an Englishman about 60 years of age, of good education, and when he went to St. Louis represented himself as an officer of the Eleventh Lancers of the British service. He told many stories about experiences in India, and started in St. Louis an order with Eastern rites, styled "The Wisdom of God," into which he initiated Mrs. Specht and her daughter. The Spechts a few years ago purchased the historical county seat of Col. Henry Mason, a contemporary of Washington's. Howard soon appeared on the scene, and, it is charged, acquired complete hypnotic control over Mrs. Specht, who fell in with Howard's plan to establish a college of occultism at Gunston Hall. Mr. Specht and his sons were unable to stop Mrs. Specht from aiding Howard's schemes financially, until they forced him to flee for fear of arrest, in connection with a \$5,000 note which Mr. Specht had given his wife, and of which it is charged Howard became possessed.

The case was tried at Perth, the county seat of Lanark county, and a verbatim report of the trial is here reprinted:

## REPORT OF THE TRIAL.

(Special to the Star.)

Perth, Ont., April 27.—One of the most interesting libel suits which has ever occupied the attention of a Canadian court is in progress at the spring assizes of Lanark county here, before his honor, Sir William Meredith. The plaintiff is Granby Staunton Howard, of Carleton Place, Ont.; defendants, Graham & Company, of Montreal, publishers of the Montreal Daily Star.

The case is interesting in many ways, some of the proof brought out so peculiar and startling that it was hardly possible to believe the sworn testimony. The case revealed the fact that Carleton Place has at present the honor of being the residence of a most peculiar individual, about whom and whose teachings a great deal was written in the American papers a few years ago. This is the plaintiff in the case, who is known in the neighborhood as "Dr." Howard, though he has no license as a medical practitioner in Canada. His ostensible means of subsistence is a patent medicine business; but according to the testimony of his own friends, he devotes a great deal of time to the study of the philosophies of the East and to the dissemination of knowledge about the occult sciences. It is to his connection with these things and the influence he obtained, partly

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through their aid, over some members of certain wealthy families in Missouri and Virginia that the evidence before the court was largely directed.

Howard is a sufficiently interesting man in his own personality to attract attention anywhere. He stands considerably over six feet in height, and with a stalwart figure well proportioned in every particular. Possessed of a really handsome face and courtly address, he has the added advantage of a splendid education and great power of self-command. He is said to have been the model of Hoffman for the dignified, bearded and turbaned sage who stands, his beard rested on one of his hands, to the left of the famous picture of "Christ in the Temple." So his friends say, at any rate, and the figure might pass for a very fair likeness.

But he derives an additional interest from the air of mystery with which he has apparently carefully surrounded himself from the singular devotion of his followers, from the sensationally mysterious character of his teachings, and from the claims to historical importance he made to some of the witnesses examined in this sensational case. According to the evidence, Howard has told that he is descended from the historical Howards of Norfolk on his father's side; that he was a baron by descent, one of the original thirty barons of England; that while he was heir to the baronial estate he went to India, entered the Brahmin-Indian order and gave up his heirship to his younger brother.

Then he is stated in the evidence to have represented himself as the colonel of the famous Seventeenth Lancers, "The Death or Glory Boys," and as a matter of fact to have served through the Indian mutiny with that distinguished corps.

Then he claimed to some of the witnesses to have cultivated 20,000 acres of land in Northumberland, near the Scottish border; and, moreover, represented himself to be the proud possessor of immense tracts of land in Canada. That, of course, was during his residence in the South.

The testimony showed that he claimed to have been an intimate acquaintance of the Duke of Newcastle and to have accompanied H. R. H., the Prince of Wales, to Canada and the United States as a member of his suite.

### A PRINCE, TOO.

His mother, he claimed, was an East Indian Begum, and through that connection he had the right to the title "Prince of Praagaya."

It was, moreover, stated in the evidence that this celebrated man claimed to be a great friend of Her Majesty the Queen; that in her presence he was allowed to retain his hat upon his head; that he would take off his hat, and Her Majesty would say, "Don't uncover." Then he claimed among certain other things to be a member of the Royal Yacht Squadron.

It was in connection with his so-called philosophical and religious

work, however, that, according to the evidence, he made the most startling claims. In this connection he was entitled to the designation "The Sage of Aru." (Aru is supposed to be a place in the Hymalayas.) His religion was superior to Christianity, which it was destined to supplant, and he claimed all sorts of mysterious powers and advanced certain strange doctrines.

Howard's attorneys frankly admitted that he is a disciple of occultism, and the efforts of the defense were directed to proving that he was actuated by base material motives, rather than by spiritual yearning. That he had made converts among persons of high intelligence of a certain class was admitted, as also the fact that some of these persons have undergone self-abnegation to a simply amazing degree, a peculiar psychological phenomenon which brought Howard into questionable distinction. The case before the jury practically simmered down to this: "*Is Howard a Brahmin-Indo-philosophical zealot or a simple charlatan?*" He had been called a necromancer—a necromancer with the minds and souls of men and women—principally women—mazed in his vague doctrines. And through all, it had been remarked, was the clink of gold. There was no mystery about that. It was Howard's power of securing money from those under his strange influence that precipitated a series of prosecutions in the United States that culminated in this libel trial in Perth. Howard's only witnesses are three married women, all women of refinement and brilliant attainments, one at least of whom has abandoned a home surrounded by all that great wealth and loving care can provide in the United States, to be near him who she reverently addresses as "Lord and Master," preferring to live in his house and take her meals at a country inn than to preside as mistress in her own handsome home on the banks of the Potomac, with the indulgent husband who had been her mate for twenty-eight years. Mrs. Howard, a very keen-looking little woman, was also present in court, but only as a witness.

After the suit had been entered a representative of the Star was sent to Washington and Virginia to thoroughly investigate the case, and on his report a plea of justification was made and a commission issued by the court for the taking of evidence in the Southern States on the application of the defendants.

### THE SCENE OF OPERATIONS.

The commissioner appointed was R. E. Thornton, a clever young lawyer of Fairfax county, Va., who had acted as counsel for Mrs. Specht in some of her litigation. In view of the high character of the gentleman in question, this was considered no ground for objection by the defense. Fairfax county, which plays such a prominent part in this case, is one of the most interesting localities historically in America. It was here that some of the proudest of the old English cavalier families settled. Here is situated Mount Vernon, the home and now final resting place of George Washington. At Guns-

ton Hall was drawn up by Col. George Mason and Jefferson the Virginia Bill of Rights, the original of the Declaration of American Independence. Alexandria, formerly in the county, was the British military headquarters in old colonial days. The old stone mansion where the ill-fated Braddock had his headquarters and where Washington received at his hands his first commission as a British officer, just before the disastrous expedition to the valley of the Ohio, is still standing, and the visitor is shown the solid oaken floors made of planks brought out from England, and the hooks in the pantry ceilings, where they used to hang the sides of bacon imported from the old country. At Fairfax Court House were fired the first musket shots of the bloody war of the American Rebellion, some of the bullet marks in the brick walls of the court-house still being pointed out to the stranger. Mosby's famous Confederate cavalry corps was recruited in this locality, and the gallant Mosby himself still lives in the vicinity to entertain his neighbors with his reminiscences.

Fairfax Court House could easily have contributed seven hills for the building of Rome and have sufficient supply remaining for local uses. With its incorporation as a village, dating back to 1744, more or less interested in all the historical incidents scattered through the period of a century and a half, the silent witness of three great wars, two for independence and the other for preservation closely allied with many places which have become Meccas for American pilgrims, the little borough lives to itself and for itself.

In the county clerk's office, where F. D. Richardson presides as a genial gentleman and capable official, the traveler is shown, inclosed in an air-tight glass case, the original copy of George Washington's will. The penmanship is discolored and dimmed by age, the parchment is torn and mutilated by repeated handling, but the whole remains a priceless relic. In an ancient register is preserved the poll of the first election for burgesses. In those days the voter made a viva voce designation of his choice, which was recorded by the clerk beneath the candidate's name. It was a fine time when the office-seeker could classify his friends and foes, and after an election was in a position to wreak appropriate vengeance.

The little temple of justice which gives the place its name stands to-day, as it has for scores of years, without alteration. Of miniature dimensions, built of red brick, which has yielded to the elements until the structure presents a rather mottled appearance, it contains nothing but the auditorium, with a high ceiling and antiquated furniture. Narrow windows, fifteen feet in height, fitted with solid wooden shutters, admit a generous supply of light. It is a court room pure and simple. The various county officials have their offices located in outlying buildings, selected far more for convenience sake than because of architectural beauty.

The court-house lies inland from the Southern Railroad a distance of five and a half miles. An ancient vehicle, drawn by two ancient horses, covers the distance over a winding country road, passing up and down countless hills at a leisurely rate of speed, which has



earned for itself the appropriate designation of the "Virginia Creeper."

On either side grow stunted cedars and better developed pines, with their dwarfed cones darkened by the unvarying heat. Large tracts of luxuriously grown underbush and saplings cover the hill-sides and disappear beyond their crests. Here and there a clump of oak rear their heads skyward, with an occasional specimen of the ash, indicating that the country was once well timbered. Along the rail fences creep many varieties of vines, with here and there a clump of wild raspberry bushes, with a few scattering red berries, drying in the withering sunlight. Over the low-lying hills Lord Fairfax rode on horseback toward the close of the colonial days; through these narrow country roads Chief Justice Marshall drove his two-wheeled gig; the very ground itself belonged to the personal estate of George Washington; within twenty miles at Gunston Hall his great personal friend (crony in fact), Col. George Mason, wrote the Virginia Bill of Rights and Jefferson made a rough draft of the Declaration of Independence; and down these same lanes Lafayette passed during his triumphal visit to the land whose freedom he had aided in establishing, and settling down amid all of these dreams and memories had come the spirit of Oriental mystery. Over these same highways and into these same mansions came Dr. Granby Staunton Howard, the high priest of occultism, proclaiming a doctrine whose psychological phenomenon has never been surpassed. Whether charlatan or fanatic, his personal magnetism chained to himself the minds and souls of men. Here became the national headquarters of the Occidental Branch of the Oriental Order of the Sat Bai Kooha, of which Dr. Howard was grand sponsor. As a past master of occultism he sustained relations with Adonai and the Angel Gabriel, communed with the stars and cast horoscopes, conversed through space with the Mahatmas of the Himalayas, reincarnated Rameses III., Buddha and the Messiah and communed with the familiar spirits by which he was constantly surrounded. It was a fitting locality for such an installation of mysteries.

#### THE CASE OPENS.

The commission completed its work some weeks ago, and now the result of its inquiry is about to be submitted to a jury of the level-headed, sturdy-limbed yeoman of Lanark county. Sir William Meredith took his seat on the bench at 10 o'clock yesterday, and after a formal presentment from the grand jury on their inspection of the county gaol had been received and the good men and true composing the grand jury discharged, the case of Howard vs. Graham was called. Both sides were ready, Mr. F. R. Latchford, of Ottawa, and Mr. T. K. Allan, of Kemptville, appearing for the plaintiff, and Mr. B. B. Osler, Q. C., of Toronto, and Mr. W. D. Hogg, Q. C., of Ottawa, appearing for the defendant. The court was crowded with spectators, including many of the leading people, ladies and gentlemen, of

this pretty, fashionable little town. A jury was quickly impaneled and sworn as follows: James Allan, Alexander McTavish, William Barr, Thomas McVeitty, Wm. H. Butler, Thomas Craig, Patrick McGarry, Robert Cochrane, Alexander Purden, William Crossgrain, William Penman and Louis Giroux.

Mr. Latchford briefly addressed the jury, explaining the plaintiff's position. The plaintiff lived in Montreal from 1887 until about 1891, when he went to the United States. He remained there till 1894, when he returned to Montreal. That was in the latter part of May, 1894. In June the Star published the article complained of, which Mr. Latchford read. The Star had a very large circulation not only in the Province of Quebec, but also in Ontario as well, and in the other provinces, too. The statements published in the article in question, the plaintiff held, were absolutely without any foundation whatever, and the wide circulation given to them was certainly calculated to injure him grievously.

The defense voluntarily admitted the publication of the alleged libelous article, and Mr. Latchford announced that that was the case for the plaintiff.

Then Mr. Osler, Q. C., briefly explained the case for the defense. "We plead and say," he remarked, "that the article in question is true in substance and in fact. The case we make is somewhat a peculiar one, dealing with matters somewhat outside usual human experience. Howard, the plaintiff, met the Specht family, people of considerable wealth, out in St. Louis, and fastened himself on to them, using his influence with the wife to get money from the husband for certain work which he did not carry on. The result was the breaking up of a previously happy family, the wife, through this man's influence, losing her confidence in the husband who had treated her kindly. This man Howard claimed to be a member of the great Norfolk Howard family in the North of England, to have been a colonel in Her Majesty's army, to have been high up in some sort of Brahmin-Indian religion, to be entitled to be called the Sage of Aru, and generally enveloped himself in that class of influence which surrounds a fakir. He obtained complete control over women because they are very susceptible, and got complete possession of the will of Mrs. Specht. Through her he extracted money, jewels, and all for the benefit of this order. The order turned out, however, to be this individual himself."

Mr. Osler said that the dispatch in question came to the Star in the ordinary course. The defendant had a duty as a journalist. There is a stern duty which a newspaper owes to the public. When it publishes an exposure of a man's character and is sued for libel, it must not give a character to a man who does not deserve it by a settlement or an apology. In these days of rapid transit the press has a useful mission to perform in enlightening the public as to the character of strangers who come to live among them. The press can protect the public from people of bad character, who change their operations from one country to another in a night. If Howard

was the kind of man the article complained of said he was, the community had the right to know what kind of a man had come into their midst. The jury represented the sober common sense of the community, and one of their duties as good citizens was to put down humbug. One might naturally wonder why, if he had sustained any injury to his character by the publication of this article, the plaintiff had waited four years before having this case taken. Was he using the paper in trying to replenish his treasury, thinking that the paper would find it cheaper to settle with him than to defend the case?

Mr. Osler then proceeded to read the evidence of the commission, but Mr. Latchford objected. The commissioner had been sworn as such by Judge Bingham, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. There was a stamped certificate of the clerk of that court that Judge Bingham was a judge, but no proof that he was a judge of a court of record.

His lordship said that he could safely assume that from the very title and designation of the court. At any rate it would be easy to obtain evidence on that point.

The evidence taken before the commission in the United States was then read to the jury as follows.

## FIGURES FROM HOWARD'S LEDGER.

Thousands of Dollars Paid Him.

## HIS VICTIMS IN ST. LOUIS.

Celsus Price Paid Him Six Thousand Dollars—Nidelet, over Five Thousand—the Gunston Temple and the Services There.

Joseph Specht, a witness called on behalf of the defendants in the above entitled cause, having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

By Mr. Hogg, Q. C.:

Q. What is your full name, Mr. Specht? A. Joseph Specht.

Q. What is your residence? A. My present residence is Gunston, Va.

Q. Is Gunston a town? A. Gunston is rather a small village, with a post office.

Q. You have a residence there? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is it called? A. It is called Gunston Hall.

Q. Where have you lived the greater part of your life? A. The greater part of my life I have lived in St. Louis, Mo.

Q. What business did you carry on? A. From 1875 to 1891 I carried on a general mercantile business.

Q. Was that on quite a large scale? A. In the latter part of that time we had quite an extensive establishment, employing in the neighborhood of two or three hundred people, and turning out \$1,500,000 worth of merchandise per year.

Q. Were you in the business alone or had you partners? A. It was a stock company. I was president of the company, and owned a greater part of the stock.

Q. You are a married man, I believe? A. Yes, sir.

Q. About when were you married? A. About thirty-two years ago.

Q. Were you living with your wife in St. Louis? A. We resided in St. Louis in different places the most of our married life. The last residence we had there was in West St. Louis, but of course we lived in various places in St. Louis during that time.

Q. You had a family? A. Our family consisted of two sons, who are now grown up, and one of whom is married, and two daughters, one of whom is married.

Q. One of your sons lives in Washington? A. Yes, sir; the eldest, Joseph A. Specht.



Q. He is an Episcopal clergyman? A. He was ordained last fall. He is not a full-fledged minister; he is in the ministry.

Q. Has he a charge here? A. He is now assisting in the Church of the Ascension during the absence of the minister and his assistant, they both being sick.

Q. What were your family relations with Mrs. Specht? A. Well, my relations with Mrs. Specht up to about 1891 were very pleasant and agreeable. She was a good, faithful wife, a good mother and everything of that kind, and we seemed to harmonize very nicely.

Q. Then there was no discord in the family? A. Not that I know of.

Q. You state that she was a good mother. What were her relations with the children?

(Objected to by plaintiff, but objection overruled.)

A. During the time that the children were small, before they were eleven or twelve years old, she was very attentive in her duties as a mother, taking an interest in all their little affairs and everything else; but when the boys grew up to twelve or thirteen years old her attention seemed to be drawn in a direction of writing books and studying philosophy and mental science and everything of that kind; and in order to get rid of these boys she would give them money in amounts I thought very indiscreet, sometimes \$5 at a time and sometimes \$10, to go out and have a good time, which resulted in a great deal of trouble later on with these boys. She wanted to get rid of the care of them, having given so much attention to these outside studies.

Q. But in other respects the family went on quietly and happily? A. Yes, sir; up to 1891.

Q. In 1891 your sons were quite young men, were they not, or were they just lads? A. In 1891 one of them, I judge, must have been about of age, and the other lad was within a year or two of it. They were young men.

Q. When did you move to Gunston Hall? A. We moved to Gunston Hall, I think, in the June of 1892, if I am not mistaken.

Q. How did you come to purchase Gunston Hall? A. I had been a very busy man all my life, and having accumulated a sufficiency, I had it in mind to get a country place, an outing place as it were, to rest up and all that sort of thing. I heard of this place being for sale through a lady who lived in Cleveland, Ohio, and so my wife and I came to look at it, and we bought it. It seemed to suit her, it suited me, and I purchased the property.

#### THE MEETING WITH HOWARD.

Q. Do you know the plaintiff, Granby S. Howard? A. Yes, sir.

Q. When did you become acquainted with him? A. I became acquainted with him in 1891.

Q. About what time in 1891? A. It must have been in the spring of 1891.

Q. Was that prior to the purchase of Gunston Hall? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Were you actuated in any way in that purchase of Gunston Hall by your acquaintance with the plaintiff? A. No, sir.

Q. How did you happen to become acquainted with the plaintiff in the spring of 1891? A. We had a family physician by the name of Sylvester L. Nidelet.

Q. That was at St. Louis? A. At St. Louis.

Q. Now go on and state how you became acquainted with the plaintiff in the spring of 1891? A. As I just stated, our family physician, Sylvester L. Nidelet, in 1887, I think, left the city of St. Louis very suddenly. He was not only our family physician, but a friend of the family; a man who was well connected, who had established a practice in the city of St. Louis worth, I suppose, from \$10,000 to \$15,000 a year; a very excellent physician; and he left very suddenly for the purpose of going to India, as he said, to study occultism. He had a friend by the name of Celsus Price, whom he had introduced to our family. Celsus Price claimed that he was connected with his lord and master in the Orient, and that he was in communication with him.

Q. Did you ever see a letter which your wife received in the year 1887 from some person styling himself the Sage of Aru? A. There is a copy of that letter here, the original of which I have in my possession. This is a copy of the original. That is the first introduction my family had at that time.

Q. That is the first communication you know of coming to your wife from the Sage of Aru? A. Yes, sir. When she received this I saw it. I mean the original.

#### THE SAGE OF ARU.

Q. Did your wife show that letter to you? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did she tell you who the Sage of Aru was then? A. She didn't know who he was then. She supposed it was some great occult man in India that had stooped so far as to write to a person who was not worth being noticed, and everything of that kind.

Q. Did you know of any communication going on between your wife and Howard, the plaintiff, after 1887, and before you personally became acquainted with him? A. I have no doubt that before this letter was written there were communications going on between them through Celsus Price.

Q. Did you see them? A. No, I did not see any of those communications.

Q. This is the first that you heard of the plaintiff? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Subsequently did you find out that the so-called Sage of Aru was the plaintiff Howard? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then in the spring of 1891 you personally came in contact with Howard, the plaintiff? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where? A. In St. Louis.

Q. Do you know how he came there? I mean upon whose invitation? A. Howard had Nidelet and Price under his control, and they were supposed to have gone to India, where Howard was supposed to live. But, through an investigation which I made later on, after this fellow had decamped the country, I ascertained that Price and Nidelet went to New York, and there they remained until all their money was spent. This fakir, Howard, took all the money that they had. I have a ledger which will show the amount that these people put into his hands.

Q. About how much money did Price put into Howard's hands? A. I have a ledger here that gives the amount. This is Dr. Howard's ledger that came out of his private papers. He hid the box that he kept these papers in. According to this ledger, Howard got from Celsus Price over \$6,000, and from Nidelet he got \$5,352.

Q. Did you afterward become aware of the fact that these men, Price and Nidelet, were followers of Howard's teachings? A. They claimed to be his followers, to give up everything that they had to him in order to follow out the life that he said that they should have to live.

Q. Did you afterward, and prior to Howard's leaving the country, know as a matter of fact that these men were his servants and following him?

#### THEIR LORD AND MASTER.

A. Certainly, they were perfect slaves to his will. They called him lord and master, and cringed like a worm.

Q. Each of them called Howard, the plaintiff, lord and master?

A. Lord and master.

Q. And did his will? A. And did whatever he told them to do.

Q. Where were they when you observed these facts? A. These two men were located at Gunston upon a small piece of property that Howard bought. When I say Gunston I mean the little village where the post office was.

Q. Not far from your residence? A. Not far from our residence. And there I observed the perfect control that this man had over these two men; they were afraid to call their souls their own.

Q. One of these men, you say, had been your family physician in St. Louis, and was a man of good standing? A. In good standing and well connected.

Q. Both professionally and socially? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And he was there working this piece of land as the servant and follower of Howard, the plaintiff? A. He did anything that was to be done; yes.

Q. Those are the facts that you observed and became aware of prior to Howard's leaving this country? A. Yes, sir.

Q. In the spring of 1891, Howard came to St. Louis and there was introduced to you. How did the introduction come about? A. It came about in this way; Celsus Price was the son of the famous rebel general in Missouri; he was a man that was very popular in that State, his father being a very prominent man, and he being a colonel in the army, and having been offered the governorship of the State; he stood very high. Howard had wasted all their money, and in order to raise more money Howard wrote a lecture, which was called "The Brahmin-Indian Philosophy." He wrote that lecture and sent Price out to St. Louis. Price came to St. Louis one day without a moment's notice and stopped at a hotel, and announced himself to the newspaper men that he had come from India and that he was going to lecture on the Brahmin-Indian Philosophy. This lecture proved to be a failure. There were two attempts made to deliver that lecture, and each attempt proved an empty house. Then Howard came from Montreal to St. Louis; that was in the spring of 1891.

Q. Then Howard having come to St. Louis, how did you become acquainted with him? A. Celsus Price having been introduced into our family, Mrs. Specht asked him to bring Howard, the Sage of Aru, to the house, because she wanted to meet him.

Q. Howard having been brought to the house, you, too, were introduced to him? A. Yes, sir. Then we knew him as Dr. G. S. Howard. Before that we knew him as the Sage of Aru.

#### A CHARITABLE INSTITUTION.

Q. Did anything come out of his introduction to you at that time? A. Mrs. Specht was enthusiastic in religious work; she contributed largely to charity and other religious arrangements; and she was very much interested in this fellow, because he said that he was trying to organize an institution for the purpose of helping mankind; healing the sick and helping the poor; in other words, to have a charitable institution on a broad scale; that was their mission, and they were trying to raise money to give this institution a start. And this lecture being a failure, they were in a very bad condition, did not have any means, and he wanted to raise money to start religious organizations which he called his order.

Q. He told you that? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And that was the style of conversation you had with him at that time; that was the general nature of the conversation? A. I was naturally a little inquisitive to know what kind of a scheme he was working, and my questions brought out those facts.

Q. What kind of a man did you find him at that time? How did he affect your mind at that time? A. He impressed me very favorably, and he was a man that I would consider able to deceive almost any person in the world, because he was very smooth, seemed to be intelligent, well versed in everything, and above all, he was very diplomatic in everything he said; a plausible fellow.



Q. Then the scheme that he had was a charitable and religious one? A. Yes, sir; to heal the sick, feed the poor, clothe the naked and all that sort of thing.

Q. Did he then make any solicitations upon you for money? A. He said the failure of his lecture would not really have made so much difference if it had not been that he had obligated himself to the amount of \$300 that he had to have at once, and his wife would be put into a very bad predicament unless the money was forwarded to her. Of course, I do not know what the predicament was, but I have reason to think what it was.

#### HOWARD GETS THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS.

Q. Then what did you or your wife do in consequence of that? A. My wife seemed to be struck very favorably with this man, and he of course spoke of his occult science and everything of that kind that I did not bother myself about, because I was not an occult student. But at the suggestion of Mrs. Specht I gave this fellow \$300, so as to help him out of his trouble. I gave him that in cash to please my wife.

Q. You gave Howard, the plaintiff, \$300 to help him out of his difficulties at that time? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then shortly afterward he left St. Louis? A. Yes, sir; he left St. Louis.

Q. Did you know where his home was at that time? A. He was living in Montreal, on St. Antoine street.

Q. Do you remember what time of the spring it was that he was in St. Louis. Was it in April or May? A. I would have to refer to some papers for dates.

Q. At all events, it was prior to June, 1891? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you know then that your wife was in communication with him about that time and after he had left St. Louis? A. Yes, sir.

#### A LETTER FROM MONTREAL.

Q. Did you ever see a letter which your wife received from him, written while he was in Montreal, dated June 11, 1891? A. Yes, sir. This is the original letter. She showed me this letter.

Said letter is filed herewith, marked Exhibit No. 5.

Q. This Exhibit No. 5 was shown to you by your wife when she received it? A. Yes, sir.

Q. It closes thus: "I am your faithful friend and sponsor," without anything further? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And this is the letter in which he says: "If I were to refuse to work for the sick because they were unable to pay my fees I would stand condemned before the angels as one who was prostituting my God-given powers for earthly gain, see?" A. Yes, sir.

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A. Yes, sir.

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Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know whether the lines written along the margin are the plaintiff's handwriting? A. Those are in his handwriting.

Q. After your wife received that letter did she speak to you about him any more? A. My wife had further communications from him.

Q. I show you a letter signed "G. S. Howard," under date of August 27, 1891; is that an original letter? A. This is the original letter from Howard to my wife.

Q. And that mentions the necessity of having some money? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Five thousand dollars is referred to. In that letter he speaks to your wife about the necessity of having \$5,000; he wants to know how the \$5,000 will be paid him, whether he is to get it in portions or the whole of it down, and the advantage it will be to him to have the \$5,000 paid down at once? A. Yes, sir.

(Said letter is filed herewith, marked exhibit No. 6.)

Q. After that letter came, what was done? A. The wife prevailed on me; she of course thought this man was an honest man and a good man, and would carry out what he agreed to carry out, and do what he said he would do; she said it would afford her great pleasure "if I would allow this fellow to get a start; if I would give him \$5,000, on her account. "Well," I said, "if it makes you happy to make this donation, and if the man will carry out what he says, I have no doubt the money will be well spent." I agreed to give him \$5,000, and subsequently I sent him from St. Louis an eastern exchange draft for \$1,000, and after that, later on some little while, I gave him four sight drafts for \$1,000 each, accepted by me as the president of our company, to be paid so many days after sight, and he got the drafts for that money, \$4,000 in Virginia, and the \$1,000 he got in Missouri.

Q. Did he come to Gunston before all this money was paid? A. This man came to Gunston immediately after he got the first \$1,000 sent to him in eastern exchange. The wife and I happened to be in Gunston at that time looking over the place; we went down there to look at it to see what was to be done with it. And although my wife had never known him before meeting him in St. Louis, she had either written or telegraphed to him that we were down there, and that she wanted him to come down and pick out some property in the neighborhood. So, lo and behold! the fellow turned up before I knew it, came walking up to the door; and it was during his visit at that time that he got the \$4,000 in sight drafts.

Q. After that did he remain there steadily, or did he go back to Montreal?

#### TEN DOLLARS FOR A PROPERTY.

A. While he was there he bought a piece of property from a woman by the name of Miss Freeman, for the price of \$1,000 cash, having then the \$5,000 in his pocket, as it were, and

agreeing to pay the woman \$1,000 cash. There were eleven acres of land with some little improvements on it, sufficient to make him comfortable if he wanted to start economically. But instead of paying her the \$1,000 for which he had bought the property, he gave her \$10 and that is all the money she ever got. I think the records of the Fairfax Court House will probably show that.

Q. Did he get a deed from her, do you know? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know that as a fact? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he remain there then continuously? A. No, he went to Montreal and arranged for moving down to Gunston. Then he went and came as occasion required until they were moved.

Q. Then he settled down at Gunston in the autumn of 1891. I suppose; would that be about right—or when? A. I should think he came down in the autumn of 1891; that is my recollection at all events. About this \$10, I may possibly be mistaken; it may have been \$20. However, the records of the court-house will show that.

Q. It was a small sum. A. It was a very small sum, and so much has happened in the meantime that I do not want to be positive about it, though I think it was \$10.

Q. That is near enough. Then you think he settled down there in the autumn of 1891. Did he build a house or was there a house on the property? A. Immediately after he had bought that place he bought three horses and a great big three or four-inch tire farm wagon, and came down there as if he was going to rip up the whole country on eleven acres of land. I said to him, "Why, my friend, this is something unusual for a man who wants to make his money go as far as it can; the idea of buying three horses! You haven't good feed enough to feed a cow with. And two farm wagons—a small one and a large one! Why do you get all that stock?" He had bought two crippled horses in Baltimore and brought them there, with a fine race horse for his own personal comfort, to drive in a buggy. He says: "It is necessary for me to have these things for my business." I said: "Your business is not farming." He said: "You know I got the horses for the elements that were in the horses, to do my occult business."

#### CISCO A YELLOW DOG.

Q. Had he any other animals on the farm? A. He had a dog called Cisco; a dog that seemed to be very valuable. He said without that dog he could not get along, because he had an elemental that was very valuable.

Q. What you understood him to mean by elemental was that he had an elemental that was part and parcel of the workings of their order? A. Exactly; I suppose some spiritual—I don't know what he meant really; of course I had reason to think what he meant.

eleven acres. Q. He did not explain it further than that? A. Some spir-  
to make himitual business. I suppose he meant the animal's spirits.

t instead of Q. And that was the explanation he gave you about the horses  
property, heand dog? A. Yes, sir.

I think the Q. That was to you personally? A. Yes, sir.

y that. Q. What did he do there? A. He was there in the autumn of  
es, sir. 1891, and you say he remained there for some years off and on?

No, he went A. After he had moved down a little while, these men, Price and  
n. Then he Nidelet, came to Gunston, and also the brother of Price, Quintus  
ved. Price; and that trio were down there and seemed to act very  
nn of 1891 mysteriously, though I couldn't say that they did anything par-  
A. I should ticularly; they did some little pottering around on the ground,  
recollection cultivated the little land they had; nevertheless, they had a negro  
ken; it may employed to do the rough work. When he got this \$5,000 he said  
t-house will they would use every dollar of it judiciously; that the members

l sum, and of the order, which he claimed numbered between 3,000 and 5,000  
want to be home, and would go to work and build houses and do all the work  
of lathing and plastering; but, instead of that, he put up a small  
shanty that he subsequently lived in, and hired a man at \$3 or \$4

ettled down of \$5 a day to do the work. When I saw that I made up my mind  
was there a that the fellow was a fraud. Then I sent my boy, Edward, who is  
had bought out West now, to Montreal to get Howard's record, but the fellow

or four-inch had covered up his tracks so that I couldn't find out anything  
going to rip about him, and I waited for further developments. In other  
aid to him, words, he went back entirely on what he had agreed to do.

ho wants to Q. There was an order; what did they do—or had they any  
three horses! actual meetings of the people belonging to it? A. The only  
d two farm people I know that belonged to the order were a Mrs. W. L. G. B.

get all that Allen, of St. Louis; my daughter, Mrs. Theodore A. Morrey, of St.  
timore and Louis; and my wife and little girl that is going to boarding-  
yn personal school here now. She was supposed to be in the order as well;  
y for me to and then these three men, the two Prices and Nidelet. Those were  
iness is not all that belonged to the order, so far as I know.

elementals Q. What did they do at this so-called home? A. These men were  
down there for a time and seemed to potter around. Nidelet was  
in a cottage by himself that had been rented, so that he would be  
isolated, and would not interfere with the occult science and  
development he was making. They remained there for a time and

had a dog finally the two Prices left; they were sent out West, sent back home,  
e. He said where they came from.

an elemen- Q. When did they hold meetings of their council? A. They held  
meetings on Sunday; they seemed to have a meeting there every

ental was Sunday, and my wife attended those meetings. I made up my  
the work- mind that I would find out what that business meant. I ex-  
piritual—I pressed a desire to join the order, just to find out, to see what was

n to think going on; and I had occasion to be invited to come to the meetings.  
Whether those meetings were carried on differently when I was

there I do not know; I can simply say what I saw when I went to the meetings.

Q. About what time was this meeting you went to?

### THE GUNSTON TEMPLE.

A. The meeting was supposed to be at 12 o'clock noon, because the sun had to be in a certain position at that hour in the signs of the zodiac, or else the meeting would not be blessed.

Q. Do you remember what time of the year that was or what year? A. I judge that must have been in 1893.

Q. Would you say it was prior to March, 1893? A. It was prior to March, 1893. I attended a meeting at Gunston with my wife at the temple—they called it the temple; that was the house he lived in, a little bit of a frame house or shanty.

Q. Were there many there? A. There were present Sylvester L. Nidelet, my wife, my little daughter, Howard, and Howard's so-called wife. When I attended those meetings the Prices had already been sent out West.

Q. You did not attend more than one meeting, did you? A. I attended several about that time.

Q. And these you have named constituted the whole congregation of people. A. That was the congregation.

Q. You may tell us what took place at the first meeting you went to. A. At the first meeting I attended, it seems that the Sage of Aru had to go upstairs to prepare himself for the official services he was supposed to hold as the great High Priest. He came down after a little while dressed in a dark green robe made out of Irish silk, a cheap affair, looking as if it was home-made, nothing gorgeous about it, and he had a belt around his waist, with a sword sticking in his scabbard; and he had on a little cap of some kind, and he came down equipped for business. Then he turned his face toward the east where the sun rises in the morning, took off his shoes, because he said that the Lord of High would not allow any person to wear shoes that was praying or going through the order, and he mumbled something that I didn't understand; and finally he read a chapter out of the Bible, I think it was out of the Psalms, if I mistake not. And this is about all that was done. He gave some little talk, you know, but I did not think there was anything very exhilarating about that.

Q. Or anything very wrong at that time? A. No, indeed.

Q. You attended other meetings? A. I attended another meeting later on. After he had gone through the preliminaries, he said he could not hold that meeting, because there were too many elements in the room; that the room was just full of them; and he commenced slashing his sword around the room so as to kill the elements. It occurred to me that the fellow must be crazy, and I said to myself I did not want any more of that religion, if it was religion.

But of course, out of regard for my wife and for those who were present, I did not say anything—I restrained myself.

### THE ELEMENTALS KILLED.

Q. Did the meeting go on? A. The meeting went on after the elementals had been killed; I suppose they were lying all over the floor, but I didn't see any of them.

Q. After the elementals were killed, he went on with the meeting just as before? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you have any talk to your wife about the absurdity of all this proceeding at that time? A. After I had seen the absurdity of all this business and the way it was carried on by this man, instead of using the money I had donated for charitable and religious purposes, I found that the fellow was squandering it, and when I asked him where he had put the money, he said it was none of my business; that he was the head of that order, and he could do whatever he had a mind to, and nobody had any right to ask questions. I said, "You are not putting it where you agreed to put it; I don't see any improvements; I don't see any charity work going on here; I don't see any educational institution started." He said that under the rules of their order he had spent the money properly.

Q. Had you any talk with your wife about the absurdity of all this proceeding? A. I had. I said to her, "Now, by the way, of course you know I want you to have all the indulgence possible, but I am satisfied in my own mind that the man is a fraud." And then I gave her the reasons why he was a fraud, went over his existence during the time he had been there up to the time that I was attending the meetings, and in a reasonable way I convinced my wife that this fellow was a fakir; that he was a fraud. She immediately wrote a letter resigning, and told him that she was satisfied in her own mind that she had been deceived, and that his order was not what he represented it to be; at any rate, that it was a one-man power, and from that day on she did not want anything more to do with it.

Q. Did she get a letter from him? A. Her letter was sent down to him by a messenger. A day or two after that I had business in Washington, and during my absence he wrote her this letter.

Q. Did you see the original of this letter? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was the effect of this letter upon your wife? A. Of course I did not know at the time that that letter had been sent to Mrs. Specht, because I anticipated her giving up this business according to the letter she had written.

Q. You thought she had given it up forever? A. Entirely, yes. I found, however, that instead of having given it up, she still went down there, and I forbade her to go; nevertheless she did go. If she did not go when I was there, she went when I was away.

Q. Then it was subsequently you found that she had received this letter? A. Yes, sir.



Q. And the effect of that upon her was, as you say, that she went back upon her promise to you? A. Exactly.

Q. And resumed her relations with the order? A. Yes, sir.

### THE EFFECT ON MRS. SPECHT.

Q. What was the effect of all this upon your wife's mind and upon her conduct? A. Well, it seems to me that after she had interested herself in this mysterious, so-called organization, she ceased to take the interest in her family that she had formerly done; that she ceased to look after the welfare of the household; had no interests in the affairs of the servants, or in her little girl, Adelaide, about thirteen or fourteen years old. She seemed to take it in her head that she had to take the Psalms of David and set them to music, and she spent a great deal of time in the music-room, at the piano, tearing up the old family Bible and trying to set the Psalms of David to music for the order. Then she spent a great deal of time in meditation and prayer. She seemed to be really earnest in doing what she thought was proper service, so much so that I got to be a sort of secondary consideration in the household, and seemed to be a burden to her rather than a comfort.

Q. Did her conduct give you any reason to suppose that her mind was affected—I mean that she was mentally deranged? A. She seemed to be a woman that was sane on everything else except religion; on any other point she seemed to be just as sane as any person. But when you touched her upon the point of religion, she was so engrossed in it that she lost sight of everything else.

Q. When you say religion, do you have reference to religion generally, or to the religion of this order? A. To this order.

Q. During the year 1893 and up to the year 1894, what effect had it upon your wife? Was she becoming more and more engrossed in this matter? A. Well, in 1893 and 1894, I was very much worried about Mrs. Specht. I saw that the matter so engrossed her that she had lost sight of pleasure and comfort in everything, including her family, her boys and myself, her household duties, and everything else. The matter went on and it seemed that Mrs. Specht had lost all her interest in her family affairs, as I say. She continued going down to this place, notwithstanding I had forbidden her to go, and finally she told me one night: "Now, Joseph, you don't know what good friends these people are to you." She said the doctor had told her that I was moving very rapidly toward insanity, and that it would be the duty of his order to take care of me and my affairs, and that he, Howard, would act as my guardian. Well, of course, I didn't know whether I was going crazy or not, but I didn't feel like it, you know. So I just told her that I was going to see about this business. I was very much worried, because she seemed to get worse right along, and finally I said, "I am going to investigate this matter." He represented himself to be a man that was descended from a noble family of England,

belonging to the Norfolk branch of the Howards. He represented himself as having been a colonel of the Seventeenth Lancers in the British Army. He represented to me that he was the special envoy of the Prince of Wales when the Prince came to this country in 1861, or whenever it was.

### THE CANADIAN PREMIER.

A. He said that he had possessions in Canada, through his father—several millions of acres of land; that he had been in Canada hobnobbing with the people there, the Prime Minister, and so on. It occurred to me that a man that was so prominent in all parts of England and Canada, I should have no trouble to find out all about.

Q. Did he say anything about having an estate in England?

A. He said they had a baronial estate, and he was a baron by descent, but that while he was an heir to this baronial estate he went to India, entered the Brahmin-Indian business, and gave up his heirship to his younger brother.

Q. Did he at that time say anything about his being the head of the order in India? A. Well, he said this: That he had been sent here from India by the council; that he was at the head and front of everything in this country; that he had been ordered to open a branch of the Occidental Brahmin Indian Philosophy near the capital of this nation; that he laid the foundation stone down there at Gunston, and it would remain there until the world came to an end.

Q. Did he then mention to you that he was entitled to the designation of Sage of Aru? A. Oh, yes; and he said he was the Prince of Praagaya. He said that on his mother's side—his mother being an Indian woman of the East, and one of the nobility there, or whatever you call it—he had acquired position in the order; that she was a princess.

Q. So that his mother was a princess of India, and his father was a nobleman? A. His father was a baron, one of the original thirty barons of England.

Q. What did he say with reference to the new dispensation he was going to inaugurate? That is, he was to be the next spirit incarnate, and who was to be the leader of the new dispensation? Do you remember him telling you anything about that? A. He said he was to be the emissary that had been out here for the purpose of bringing about the new dispensation. This daughter of mine in St. Louis was about to become a mother, and he told her that her child, when born, was to be the Christ. If it had turned out to be a girl, he would have been in a bad fix, but it did turn out to be a boy.

Q. These are the things he told you when you had this talk with him? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You advised with Mr. Carlisle, and upon his advice you went and saw Howard, the plaintiff? A. Upon his advice, I saw Howard, the plaintiff, in the presence of my son Joseph A. I went into the little cottage he had—the temple so-called—and he was in the temple, and when I got into the temple his wife very shortly came in; my son was there with me, and he sat on the sofa. I says, “Doctor, I am here to get information; I have made up my mind that since you have signified the necessity of your being my guardian, and have also stated to my wife that I am going insane, I had better come down here, and find out who you are before I am too far gone. Now, I want you to give me your credentials, and give me your references; if you can’t give me those I will adopt measures to get them otherwise; and if you are not the man you represent yourself to be, I will have you in the penitentiary.” Howard turned pale; he sat on the sofa, put his thumbs in his waistcoat like that (indicating), and he says: “I refuse to tell you who I am, where I came from, or anything else.” He says: “I am that I am.” Then I said: “I will attend to you at once; I shall go up town to-morrow, and shall institute proceedings to take care of you.”

#### DETAINED MRS. SPECHT.

The same day I packed my grip, and got ready the next morning at boat time, and went to Washington. The Howards also went up there. I saw Carlisle & Johnson, and those people arranged to have Mrs. Specht come up there in order to convince her that this man was a fraud from evidence they had gained. I supposed at that time all I had to do was to go to Mrs. Specht, not thinking that she was so engrossed in this thing that she was beyond recovery. But she said she would not go.

Q. Sprague was a lawyer in Washington? A. Yes, sir; a man that has since left because of his practice not being legitimate. Next morning I saw my attorneys, and they advised me to retain Mrs. Specht, not to allow her to go home. When I got down to the hotel to see whether she had made up her mind to see my attorneys or not, she said no, she was going home, had her gripsack packed to go back home to Gunston. I said, “No, you can’t go.” So she went up to her attorney, but was detained until the boat went away, and then I went over to see the attorneys. In the meantime they had told me not to let her out of the room, and I supposed I had a perfect right to prevent my wife doing anything that was wrong. Seeing that nothing could be done with Mrs. Specht to save her, I had to resort to heroic measures to save her. Carlisle & Johnson advised me to get out a writ of non compos mentis, and hurriedly they got out a writ, so as to cover the ground quickly. I think this was on Saturday. When the document had been filed in court, it was served on both Mrs. Specht and Sprague, who proved to be the attorney for Mrs. Specht—she had engaged

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him, as it were, on the advice of this Howard—and in the instrument, of course, Howard was mentioned as an impostor, and everything of that kind.

Q. You saw the document? A. Yes; and I think you'll find that document on file in the court here now. It seems that Sprague, when he was served with this document, immediately rushed down to the St. James Hotel.

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## CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE PLAINTIFF IN VIRGINIA.

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The Sage of Aru Had Plenty of Cause to Flee the Country.

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### MORE ABOUT THE BRAHMIN-INDIAN PHILOSOPHY AND ITS HIGH PRIEST.

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(Continued from Yesterday.)

Special to the Star.

Perth, Ont., April 28.—The great libel case of Howard vs. Graham continues to be the talk of the town. The comfortable court room was crowded at the sittings with people highly interested in the case.

The continuation of the reading of the evidence taken by the commission in the United States was followed with the closest interest. Mr. Osler, Q. C., read the questions as they had been put by Mr. Hogg, Q. C., who represented the plaintiffs at the sittings of the commission in Washington and Virginia, and Mr. Hogg himself read the answers as they had been given by the witnesses. The evidence of the commission was very voluminous, much of it was not read to the jury because the defense knew their case was strong enough without it, much was voluntarily not submitted by the defense because it was of a hearsay character. Mr. Latchford, for the plaintiff, objected to a number of questions because they were leading questions.

His Lordship promptly ruled that no objections on those grounds would be entertained. If the questions were objectionable they should have been objected to before the commission, and the evidence required would have been obtained by other questioning. It was too late to object now.

As a matter of fact, the plaintiff had not been represented before the commission. Notice had been given the plaintiffs of the date and place of the sitting of the commission, and as provided in the commission, they were given ample time to arrange to be represented. The plaintiff's local counsel gave the name of Mr. J. J. Darlington, an eminent member of the Washington bar, as the plaintiff's agent before the commission. When the date for the sitting of the commission had been arranged, the commissioner, Mr. Thornton, prepared the usual notification for the agent of the plaintiff and handed it to a representative of the Star to serve upon

Mr. Darlington, if he chose to accept service without the usual formality.

Mr. Darlington said that he would willingly accept service, but not as a commissioner. He had just received a letter from Canada asking him to act as agent for a so-called Doctor Howard in a commission in a libel case, but he had given nobody the right to name him as their agent. He intended writing the party from whom he had heard in Canada, and would send on the notification served upon him with his positive refusal to act in the case in any capacity. Mr. Darlington added that from what he had heard of Howard and his doings he was not the kind of man he should like to represent in any capacity. Howard's Canadian lawyers were at once notified by telegraph of Mr. Darlington's refusal to act. Mr. Hogg had not then left himself for Washington, so that there was ample time for the defendant to secure another representative, but none appeared, though the plaintiff's Canadian counsel was kept regularly informed of the witnesses it was intended to examine. The plaintiffs professed to have little interest in the commission, saving that no evidence of any value could be procured.

#### THE CHIEF WITNESSES.

It was thought by them that Mr. Joseph Specht and the Rev. Joseph A. Specht, his son, the principal available witnesses for the defense, would decline to testify from the affectionate regard which still exists for the deluded wife and mother and from the natural disinclination of refined people in high social, professional and business positions to restore to public gaze the family skeleton, relegated for some years to the retirement of the domestic cupboard. At first there was some hesitation, a disinclination on the part of these gentlemen to give evidence, but as soon as they saw that by abstaining to testify they would be doing an injustice to the publisher of a reputable newspaper, and indirectly to the Canadian community, they cheerfully accorded every assistance in their power to those engaged in working up the case for the defense, papers of the greatest family interest being placed at their disposal.

Mr. Joseph Specht lives in dignified but sadly solitary comfort in his beautiful home at Gunston Hall, which, surrounded by well tilled fields, fine orchards and beautiful and ample flower beds, is situated on the summit of a high slope overlooking the broad surface of the placid Potomac. The substantial and generously proportioned stone mansion was built early in days when Virginia was a loyal British colony, some of the timber, the sashes, etc., having been imported from the mother country. It is a typical Southern "Colonial home place," with open portico over the main entrance, great open fanlight over the door and with that air of substantial comfort about it which characterizes every one of the old historic homes of the Old Dominion.

One is reminded of the English origin of the place by the hedges of box wood, the ivy climbing about the old stone structures and the fragrant violets. The Gunston violets smell as many people imagine only English violets can. There is a delightful air of antiquity about the whole place. The present proprietor of the place has expended many thousands of dollars in restoring and beautifying the place, but with good taste, and a reverence for the things interesting by reason of their antiquity, has been careful in adding to Gunston Hall the modern comforts of an up-to-date home, to avoid the least interference with the original architectural style of the historic mansion. The place looks about as it must have done when the brainy author of the Virginia Bill of Rights, Colonel George Mason, entertained his friend and neighbor, George Washington, and exchanged jokes and sampled the contents of the cool cellars with Thomas Jefferson and General Lafayette. And the arrangement of the interior has been interfered with as little as possible, and the Washington room, which was always kept at the disposal of Mason's famous neighbor, the Jefferson room and the Lafayette room are pointed out to the visitor and allotted among his guests by the hospitable master of Gunston Hall with evident pride. Mr. Joseph Specht is the hospitable host par excellence, well maintaining the high reputation of the people of Virginia for hospitality. He will not let his colored servants show the guests under his roof to their respective rooms, but graciously takes the duty upon himself after the brief family service unostentatiously conducted by himself in the hall is over and the evening glass of sparkling home-made cider enjoyed. This tall, strong, handsome, genial old gentleman appears to have quite forgotten in his affection for Gunston the active, bustling life of his twenty years of a business career in the "hustling" city of St. Louis, and lives here in graceful repose the patriarchal existence of the English country squire. The evidence produced at the trial, no less than the very apparent affection of the whole neighborhood, shows that he takes a great personal interest in the welfare of his less fortunate neighbors. One is not surprised to learn that he is a vestryman in the local Episcopal church. So he lives, often running up to Washington to visit the delightful home of his clever and peculiarly frank and manly son, the Rev. Joseph A. Specht, but devoting most of his time to improving the Gunston Hall estates and doing good generally, in his own unassuming way, in the neighborhood. There appears to be but one thing to keep him from the enjoyment of complete happiness. His efforts to secure a handsome competence have succeeded almost beyond human expectations, he has a residence a prince might envy, a reputation among his neighbors and business acquaintances such as very few enjoy or deserve to. But she who had been the companion of his life for over twenty-nine years, the mother of his children, had left him on the very threshold of the autumn of life, and has come to reside in a



small town in Ontario, leaving Gunston Hall without a mistress. Here truly is a pathetic proof of the fact that riches do not always bring happiness.

#### MORE OF THE EVIDENCE.

The reading of the evidence of Mr. Joseph Specht taken by the commission in the city of Washington was continued, as follows:

Q. You ascertained that Howard left the hotel? A. That he had left the hotel; we did not know that he had gone out of the city. Having left Gunston in so big a hurry, I thought in all probability he would take the early morning boat on Sunday to go to Gunston to get some of his things. I knew that he was liable to skip out. So I took the early four o'clock train in the morning to Alexandria, and got the mayor of the city to go to the Police Department and issue a warrant for this man Howard.

Q. What day was that? A. That was on Sunday morning, the 13th of May. A boat left Washington at seven o'clock in the morning and landed at Alexandria, about half an hour afterward. I had with me a lawyer of Alexandria by the name of Johnson; I think that is the Johnson that was recommended to act for the other side. He went with me and drew the warrant. I don't know whether he wrote it or not.

Q. He attended to the matter for you as your attorney? A. Yes, sir. We found that the fellow Howard was not on board.

#### WARRANTS FOR HOWARD.

Q. I understand you to say that early on the morning of the 13th of May you had a warrant issued at Alexandria for the purpose of intercepting Howard on his way down the river? A. Yes, sir; while he was on the boat.

Q. This warrant was put in the hands of proper constables? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And he was not found? A. He was not on the boat.

Q. What did you do then? A. The following day, Monday, I went to Fairfax Court House and made complaint there and swore out a warrant.

Q. Who attended to the matter for you there? A. Mr. J. M. Love, who was at that time Commonwealth's Attorney, drew up the papers, and Mr. Moore, my attorney over there, also attended to getting out the papers. That warrant was issued by Mr. John R. Taylor, under his hand and seal as justice of the peace; that is, I judge so from the papers; I did not know the gentleman's name. Of course, it went through the regular routine of legal proceedings, I suppose.

Q. Who was that warrant issued for?

(Objected to, but objection overruled.)

A. The warrant was issued so that we could arrest Howard in the State of Virginia. Upon that warrant Mr. Love applied for a requisition from the Governor of Virginia, so that we could get Howard in New York State.

Q. A requisition upon the Governor of New York from the Governor of Virginia? A. Yes, sir. We found through our detective that the man had located in New York. We found out, through letters that had come from him, that he was in New York city. Then we had this requisition issued by the Governor of Virginia, and put into the hands of a detective, who went over to New York to capture the enemy, as it were.

Q. Do you know why he ran away? A. Well, it seems to me that I gave him plenty of reason to run away. I told him I would put him in the penitentiary.

Q. So far as you judge, did he know or suspect that you were about to issue a warrant against him? A. I don't think that he suspected anything until this non compos mentis document was issued, and then he saw that he was included in that as an impostor and the cause of all the trouble.

Q. He was therein stated as the cause of the trouble, so far as your wife's condition of mind and her relationship with you were concerned? A. Exactly.

Q. After this process in the lunacy proceeding was issued, why did you issue these warrants then? A. Because the man was a thief and an impostor, and I wanted to bring him to justice.

Q. What efforts did you make to actually capture him? I have partially told you. Before we went to New York I sent two detectives, I think two, but I will not be positive whether one or two; I think the name of one of the detectives was Tomlinson, the one was sent to Richmond, Va., to look through the suburbs and country places for a family by the name of Burnham.

Q. You apparently used all proper efforts, did you, to enable you to arrest them?

#### EXTRADITION PROCEEDINGS BEGUN.

A. We made up our minds to get out extradition papers to Canada to bring him back.

Q. Whom did you advise with as to that? A. I advised with Carlisle & Johnson and with Mr. Moore. We first thought we would have the papers drawn up by the district authorities here. But finally they had a consultation, and they concluded that inasmuch as Mrs. Specht was so persistent in adhering to her course, that she could not be saved; we had better let the fellow remain where he was; it was thought that in the event of bringing him back, while he might get three or four years in the penitentiary, yet three or four years would go by very quickly, and then he would be footloose and ready to commit other depredations, whereas by

leaving him in Canada, he was out of the country and could do no harm.

Q. So that the extradition proceedings, then, were stopped on that account? A. Yes, sir.

Q. But as a matter of fact, extradition proceedings were actually commenced? A. The attorneys were preparing to get out extradition papers, but after consultation they advised as I have stated. (Objected to.)

Q. Following up Mrs. Specht for a moment: Howard left Washington on the night of the 12th of May or on the morning of the 13th of May? A. Some time in that period.

Q. And you subsequently heard he was in Montreal? A. I employed a great deal of detective talent, such as it was, to ascertain where he was; I was very anxious to find out where the fellow was. His wife was still here, and I had his wife shadowed to try to find out where she was sending her communications, and we found that he was located in Montreal, on some street, the name of which I forget, under the name of Wilson. I forget the first name.

Q. What became of the property, the house and furniture and things of that kind, that he left there? Did he send anybody to look after it? He did not come himself, of course? A. Such property as he had at Gunston was, as the court records at Fairfax Court House will show, assigned to this man Sprague, and he had control of all that property; he lived there for a time and they moved the property from time to time; I don't know what became of it; I did not keep track of it.

Q. You had nothing to do with it? A. No, sir; I had nothing to do with it. Sprague had charge of it.

Q. You did not take possession of it at all? A. No, sir. But after Howard had skipped I went down and saw his wife specially, and told her I would give her twenty-four hours to leave that place; that if she did not leave within twenty-four hours I would have her put in the county gaol, because I considered her an accomplice. She was an impostor. I knew she was not his wife, and I told her she would have to go or else I would put her in gaol. She left in a big hurry.

Q. That brings us to May 12, 1894. What became of Mrs. Specht after the 12th of May, 1894? A. Well, Mrs. Specht had this non compos mentis action brought against her and that matter was tried, I think, before Judge Cox. Having made an investigation of her attorney—this man Sprague—I found that he was a man of bad repute, and was not a safe man to be allowed to look after my wife's affairs. I suggested to my attorneys that they have the court appoint an additional attorney for my wife, a good attorney, a man of fine repute in this city, to take care of her interests in the matter, and the judge, by the consent of Sprague, appointed Judge Wilson as an additional attorney. Then I felt perfectly safe, and I think subsequently Mr. Thornton was also engaged to represent her, and

between these two reputable attorneys and that scoundrel the matter was adjusted in some way, and she came down and lived at Gunston again. The judge told her that she must behave herself; that if she did she would not have any trouble, I believe, and she agreed to come back under certain conditions. I was to give her some little allowance, which was agreed upon, and she came back and stayed there a while. In the meantime she went out to St. Louis. This daughter of mine was about to be confined, and my wife asked if I would not allow her to go out and take care of our daughter during her confinement. I said, certainly, and she went out to look after this child, taking her younger daughter with her. I forgot to state, though, that this married daughter I am referring to was affected similarly with her mother; she also believed in this fake religion. But under the circumstances, for humanity's sake, I could not keep my wife from going on an occasion of that kind. While I disliked her to go, it seemed to me that it would be no more than right that she should; that I would take all the chances, and she went. After the baby had been born and was old enough to travel, our daughter, Mrs. Morey, came on with the baby to Gunston, and they seemed to get along very nicely. One evening I sat in my room in a rocking-chair smoking a cigar, Mrs. Specht talking about her religious affairs, and I told her that there was no occasion for anything of that kind; that this matter had been settled.

(Objected to, but objection overruled.)

She said: "Yes, there is; because you have robbed me of my religion and my master"—having reference to Howard, I suppose. And she says, "I am living a life of prostitution with you, and I have been your concubine for 29 years."

#### PARTING OF THE WAYS.

I then told her that I thought the parting of the ways had come; that she should never occupy my bed again as long as she lived, and I ordered her to go into another bedroom. Then she stayed there for some little while longer. I felt sorry, thinking that the poor woman was not responsible, and the next day I apologized to her, thinking that I had no business to talk to a person in a manner I had talked to her, because she really was not responsible; that she had been hypnotized or something had been done to her to make her irresponsible; and it occurred to me that the best thing that I could do was to get a diversion for her. No, I think I am going a little too fast. These are all facts I am telling you, but there is another fact coming before that that I omitted. Yes, before Mrs. Specht ran away she went to St. Louis. I used to be in the city of Washington a good deal, and one time when I returned home she had packed her trunk and left by the early morning train, and I found she was in St. Louis. She had made up her mind that she could not live with me, I suppose, on account of what had happened.

Q. Did she go alone? A. She went with this little daughter.

She was out there for quite a while; remained there, as I said, long enough to have this confinement take place. After the confinement she came home. Thinking a change of climate would do her good, I sent her up to the mountains with my married daughter, who was down there at Gunston, and accompanied by our youngest daughter. She remained in the mountains during the summer, and when the season of August came I said to her, "The best thing you can do is to go to Atlantic City and finish the season at the seashore." I thought that by having her there, where she would see a great many people in society and where there was a good deal of excitement, this matter would work off. She went to Atlantic City and remained there until the season was over and it was time to come back for the young lady to go to school. When she returned she stopped at the National Hotel in Washington, and I came up to see her. She said before going home she would like to locate in Washington for the winter, occupy flats here, so that we could live here during the unpleasant season of the year, and live in the country during the pleasant season of the year. I advertised for flats, and received a large package of applications, and when I presented those answers to her she looked at two or three of them, and deliberately threw the balance of them on the floor, saying she thought they did not amount to anything; that they were a lot of trash. I got a telegram from St. Louis in consequence of which I was obliged to go out there on some very important business. I was gone for a week or ten days. I told her before going that she could remain at the hotel until I came back, or else she could go to Gunston and stay there until I returned.

### SHE RAN AWAY.

When I returned she was not at the hotel; she had left a note saying that she had moved to the house of an employee in one of those Government departments; that she had a room there and wanted to live there. In other words, she ran away from me. Right after the child was born—what I am saying now came in between—she got employment in a dry goods store in St. Louis. She had run away again from me and would not come back for reasons of her own. Of course I provided her with necessary funds, through my son-in-law, who is out there, fearing that the money I might send to her she would send to this fakir in Canada. She seemed to think I had forsaken her entirely and hired out to go into a shop. There she was, a woman that stood high in society, entertained largely, just as well known in St. Louis, Mo., as President Cleveland is here in Washington, and to bring this disgrace upon the family; I thought I would make any sacrifice to try to bring her around. I went out and arranged that she was to get a certain amount of money per month, which she could use as she had a mind to. I then told her the best thing we could do was to make a trip to Bermuda, and we made a trip to Bermuda. I gave her all the comforts

that it was possible for a person to have under such circumstances, thinking that a diversion and a change of climate would do her good. But we had been over there only a very short time when she commenced to cry and get hysterics, saying that I robbed her of her religion and her lord and master. So it was the same old story. Finally, when she left the National Hotel the last time, she went to the house, as I said, of an employee of one of the Government departments, and there she got typhoid fever. I was notified that she had been taken sick with typhoid fever. I immediately packed my things and came up and told her I was ready to stand by her and take care of her in the best way possible. I engaged a professional nurse at \$25 a week, and physicians of the best talent to be had in the city, thinking that after a severe spell of sickness of that kind she might come to her senses. But after she had got convalescent, I found she was as badly inclined as before; that she still hankered for Howard and his religious fake business. When she was strong enough she and I had a meeting, and I told her I had made up my mind that she would have to choose between me and Howard; that I could not stand this kind of business any longer; that if a woman ran away from her husband three or four times and brought suits for divorce and such things, incurring expenses in hiring attorneys, I got tired of it, and put it in that way; that she would have to take her choice, and I gave her so many days to do it; and she selected Howard.

#### DEED OF SEPARATION.

Q. And then did you have a deed of separation drawn up, or was there an agreement of some kind made? A. We had a deed of separation drawn up. She got her attorney and I got mine.

Q. And then you provided her with \$150 a month? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Which you are still paying her? A. Yes, sir; promptly every month.

Q. Having it sent to her at Carleton Place, in Ontario, Canada? A. The Washington Loan and Trust Company is the trustee, and they send her every month a check or draft for \$150 to Carleton Place. Those drafts I have examined, after being cancelled, and they are all indorsed by G. S. Howard, and so I judge that he is getting the best part of it.

Q. Had Mrs. Specht given her diamonds to those people? (Howard and wife.) A. Unbeknown to me she had given her diamonds to Howard—her diamond brooch and ear-rings, worth from \$1,200 to \$1,300.

Q. At all events, Mrs. Specht gave the brooch and the ear-rings to Howard? A. Yes, so she says—without consulting me.

Q. And subsequently you discovered that they had been pawned? A. She told me so when they came back.

Q. Who told you? A. Mrs. Specht told me she had given them to those people, and Howard admitted to me that he had pawned them in New York for \$500.

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Q. About March 8, 1894, he admitted to you that he had pawned them in New York? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he say how much he had got? A. Five hundred dollars.

Q. Did he say with whom he had pawned them? A. No, he did not.

Q. But you discovered afterward that they were pawned with R. Simpson & Co., of 195 Bowery, New York? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you got the actual pawn ticket? A. I got the actual notice and the envelope that it came in. Subsequent to this Mrs. Specht, being a woman of society in St. Louis, and having a very elegant wardrobe, dresses and lots of things worth many hundred dollars, she deliberately packed up all her things that were beautiful and sent them to Washington city, to Sloan's auction-rooms, and had them sold, and turned the proceeds over to this fakir, so that it left her without nothing except ordinary things; everything that was fine and desirable, and that a woman loves and appreciates, she disposed of, and gave the proceeds to Howard, who took them, of course.

Q. How did you happen to get this notice? A. That notice was found in this house, when it was cleaned up, after they had moved out.

Q. Was it in this envelope. A. Yes, sir; in that envelope.

(Said envelope and notice are filed, marked Exhibit No. 10.)

Q. That corroborates just what Howard told you himself? A. Yes, sir.

#### ANOTHER LIBEL ACTION.

Q. In the year 1897, Howard brought an action against you in Ontario for alleged libel? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And according to the records you obtained a judgment against you for \$10,000? A. So I am told.

Q. That judgment was obtained by default; that is, you made no appearance in court and put in no answer? A. No, sir.

Q. Why did you take that course? A. The man might just as well have sued me in Africa as to sue me in Canada.

Q. You were served with a writ or notice? A. Yes, sir; and I referred the matter to my attorney, who thought it over very carefully, and he advised me not to notice the suit at all, because Howard could get no execution that would affect me here. And besides, Howard knew just as well as I did that the case would not amount to anything so far as execution was concerned. He simply brought it so as to keep me out of Canada, because he thought I might prosecute him there and bring him to justice.

Q. Acting upon the advice of your attorney here you abstained from taking any notice of that action? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who was it advised you? A. Mr. R. Walton Moo, a regular attorney in Fairfax County, Va.

Q. Anyone else? A. No, sir.

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Q. You did not consult Carlisle & Johnson? A. No, sir.

Q. And you followed Mr. Moore's advice? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You mentioned a lady by the name of Mrs. L. G. W. Allen; she professed to follow Howard; is that what I understand? A. She was also one of his victims. She believes in Howard, so much so that she ran away from her husband in order to join Howard. Her husband objected to her having anything to do with Howard and his gang, as he called them, but she ran away from her husband and came to where Howard lived, down near Gunston, and said to him that she had left her husband; that she wanted to live with him; wanted to be his wife—now my wife told me that—and he said



**Mrs. Howard, Sketched in the Court Room.**

that he already had a wife; but she said, "Under your order you can take just as many wives as you want." Afterward Allen came down and took her back, and she now lives in New York.

Q. Does she not live with her husband? A. Yes, sir; with her husband in New York.

Q. When you say that Mrs. Allen was one of his victims, you mean it in a sense of running away from her husband and following Howard? A. It was in the sense that she contributed all the money she had to Howard, and all that she could borrow.

Q. How do you know that fact? A. Because Mrs. Allen herself told me that she had borrowed money.

Q. At all events, you understand that she contributed money to him? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Referring to the influence that Howard seemed to have over your wife and those other persons, such as Price, Nidelet, and Mrs. Allen, there may be a great many others you do not know about; you know of those, at all events? A. Yes, sir. I know of those, but I have never heard of others, and have no reason to think there were others.

#### HAS HYPNOTIC POWER.

Q. To what do you attribute that power of his over persons he comes in contact with, tending to ruin their lives?

(Objected to, but objection overruled.)

A. I have had the opportunity of being with Howard myself more or less, and I must say that there is something about that fellow that has a sort of influence over a person. I know that he had some influence over me. He had a strong will power, but I made up my mind to fight him off. From my observation, I had no doubt that that man has what is termed hypnotic power—that is, he can hypnotize people.

Q. Sway them according to his desire? A. Yes, sir; because had I given away myself, had I not conquered myself, I know that I would have been carried away by it. He is a man that has something, I don't know what it is.

Q. To sum up: The result of his introduction to you and your wife at Gunston was that Howard obtained \$5,000 in cash from you and obtained these jewels from your wife. What else did he obtain from Mrs. Specht besides the \$5,000 and the jewels? A. He obtained much of the money that I gave her to expend on her own person and on the person of her daughter. She had an allowance of \$25 a month; that I gave Mrs. Specht, and that she gave to Howard. Then he got \$300 from me in St. Louis and he got several hundred dollars at different times afterward. The total amount of money he obtained would probably aggregate between \$8,000 and \$10,000.

Q. Altogether he got between \$8,000 and \$10,000 from you and your wife? A. Yes, sir.

Q. The reason then why you sought to arrest him was that he was obtaining this money, how? A. The man represented himself to be a religious man, a man that was going to open a charitable institution to help the sick and poor, and to treat them without charge, and do good to mankind in general. All that he failed to do. He failed to spend or use the money for any purpose that he got it for.

Q. Would you have advanced any money to him had you known what he was going to do with it, as a matter of fact? A. Not one dollar.

Q. Were you induced to advance this money by the representations he made?

(Objected to, but objection overruled.)

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then the money was advanced to him through your wife, some of it, and some of it directly by yourself? A. To settle that part of it, my wife had no money of her own.

Q. Some of it was given by her; she was the medium of it getting into his hands? A. Yes; but she had no money.

Q. It was then given to him in consequence of the representations which he made, and these representations induced you to give the money? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you find these representations of his to be entirely untrue? A. Entirely untrue.

Q. And it was in consequence, then, of the misrepresentations that he made to you that you applied for and got out that warrant? (Objected to, but objection overruled.)

A. Decidedly.

Q. Stating only the \$5,000 and the jewels; you did not mention the other amounts at that time? A. I thought that was sufficient to bring him to justice, and the balance would have been brought out when his trial came off.

# SUPERHUMAN POWERS.

Sways People According to His Desire.

## LETTERS TRANSMITTED WITHOUT HUMAN AGENCIES.

Claimed Unlimited Wealth—But it was against the Rules of the Order to give any Money out of the Treasury—Each Country must put up the Cash for Itself.

Tuesday, March 22, 1898.

Met pursuant to adjournment in parlor 19, Metropolitan Hotel, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Hogg, representing the defendants, being present, no representative appearing for the plaintiff.

At the suggestion of defendants' counsel, and by consent of the commissioner, the further taking of evidence to-day is transferred to 344 D street, at the office of Aaron Johns, in said Washington, notice having been left at the Metropolitan Hotel office for any person inquiring with reference to the same.

Joseph Specht resumed the witness stand, and his testimony was continued as follows:

By Mr. Hogg:

Q. Mr. Specht, with reference to the \$5,000 which you mentioned yesterday as having been paid over to the plaintiff in the month of August, 1891, I understand that the request for \$5,000 came from your wife? A. Yes, sir.

Q. She desired to give Howard \$5,000? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And upon her request you paid the \$5,000 for her, and on her behalf? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then as far as you yourself were concerned, I suppose you would not have paid that \$5,000 personally? A. Well, I, of course, being in communication with Howard, and he setting forth the object and purpose he had in view, which has been stated heretofore, felt that perhaps, to gratify Mrs. Specht, it would be a good thing for humanity and everything of that kind, and that I would give it, because Mrs. Specht was inclined to be charitable and pay out money for such institutions.

Q. Is it a fact that it was a gift by you to her for that purpose? A. Well, I don't know how to put that exactly. Of course, I paid

the money over to this man Howard, and I paid it because Mrs. Specht requested me to do so; and of course, before paying it, I bore in mind the purpose that the money was to be used for, and for that reason I paid it to the man.

Q. To further illustrate the influence that plaintiff had over your wife, was there a will made by her at any time in his favor? A. There was a will made by Mrs. Specht while she was in the city of St. Louis with her married daughter in the early part of 1894, I think.

Q. It was a will of certain property? A. Yes, sir; the Gunston Hall property and the Ben Venue property.

Q. She devised the Gunston Hall property to him? A. By this will, yes.

Q. Who was appointed guardian? A. Howard was appointed guardian and trustee of my youngest daughter, to whom my wife bequeathed the Ben Venue property; the Ben Venue was bequeathed to that youngest daughter.

Q. Then she ignored the other three children? A. Yes, sir; it appeared that the eldest daughter had signed the will as a witness.

And further this deponent saith not.

#### MR. SPECHT, JR.

Joseph A. Specht, a witness called on behalf of the defendants, having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

By Mr. Hogg:

Q. Where do you reside, Mr. Specht? A. In Washington, D. C.

Q. What is your avocation in life? A. Clergyman in the Episcopal Church.

Q. Lately called to holy orders? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long since? A. Three months ago.

Q. Where did you pursue your studies for the ministry? A. At the Theological Seminary, in Virginia.

Q. For how long? A. A little over three years, and then a year in Washington.

Q. That was about four years ago? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You are a son of the preceding witness, Mr. Joseph Specht? A. Yes, sir.

Q. The eldest son. A. Yes, sir.

Q. You have lived with your father and mother most of your life, I suppose? A. Yes, sir.

Q. At St. Louis first? A. At St. Louis first; yes.

Q. Then your family consisted of your father and mother and how many children? A. Two boys and two girls.

Q. That is, yourself, your brother, Mrs. Morrey and Adelaide Specht? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How old are you? A. I will be 28 the 28th of March.

Q. Then you will remember the condition of your family, family

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ties, and its position generally, for a good many years past? A. Yes, sir.

Q. In St. Louis what was the condition of the family? A. At what time?

Q. Prior to 1891? A. Well, there seemed to be a great deal of harmony amongst the members of our family; but my mother was interested in philosophical matters, esoteric religions, and things like that, before she met this man Howard; she was carried away by things of that sort under the belief that her mind was so constituted that she could develop in ways that other minds could not.



Mrs. Allen in the Box.

Q. Did that effect to any appreciable extent your harmony as a family? A. It did in this way; that she was engaged in literary labors, writing a good deal, and consequently gradually gave up society.

Q. Then in 1891 she met Howard? A. Yes, but she had corresponded with him previously to that.

Q. But she met Howard in 1891? A. I am not sure that it was in 1891. I think it was 1890.

Q. It has appeared in the evidence that it was in 1891. A. Let me think to be sure about the date. (A pause.) Yes, it was in the spring of 1891.

Q. Did Howard come to St. Louis? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And there met your mother and father?

## SUPERHUMAN POWERS.

A. Yes, sir; but she did not identify him as the man with whom she had been corresponding until he made himself known. In his correspondence with her he signed himself the "Sage of Aru;" and the letters were supposed to come through a mysterious channel. I remember the first letter that my mother received: it had a lotus flower in it, and she told me that the letter had come without any human agency whatsoever; that by virtue of superhuman powers they could send a letter from the Himalaya Mountains to St. Louis in a very few hours, and she seemed to be very much impressed with it. That letter was written, I think, in 1890, or 1889, while the Prices were away. My mother had a sort of conception that he (Howard) was some great sage or something, because at different times she turned my brother and myself out of our rooms because he was a great man. He came up there, and she treated him like he was a god, and if she did not send us away, she would make us tip-toe around and things of that sort. But after that he revealed himself to her as the Sage of Aru.

Q. Was he known at that time by that title? A. No; he went under the name of Howard.

Q. But your mother understood him, then, as being the Sage of Aru? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did she address him in that way? A. No, she did not.

Q. Except in written communications? A. Well, I don't know that she ever addressed him in that way in communications. But she may have, I don't remember.

Q. There is one letter showing that she did? A. Oh, yes; I know she frequently addressed him as master; that was another one of his titles.

Q. "Rev. and Respected Master, the Sage of Aru?" A. Yes, that is the way.

Q. That is the way your mother addressed him? A. Yes, sir.

Q. That was in the spring of 1891? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long did he remain there, do you remember? A. He remained two or three weeks.

Q. Living at the hotel in St. Louis? A. No, sir; at our house.

Q. Do you know anything about the adherents they got at St. Louis? A. Oh, they got quite a number of society women.

Q. Did they get any men over and above Price and Nidelet? A. No, sir; he told my mother at first that all that he wanted was to get a number of prominent ladies interested in the work, to form a class for instruction; and if I recollect properly, they came to our house frequently and had meetings in the afternoons.

Q. At your mother's house? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did the appearance of Howard then create any sensation among the people there, or was it just among the few ladies? A. It created a sensation in this way: at the fact of Mr. Price being



associated with him and the fact that Mr. Price was lecturing. Howard would write lectures and Price would read them. Then he was interviewed by the reporters and they laid out the work.

### AN EXTRAORDINARY MAN.

Q. What was the nature of his conduct? A. He struck me then as an extraordinary man, and a man of very high character. He was a smooth talker, very impressive in his bearing, and very gentle; and I should say a man as to whom any one coming to him at first would say, "There is a noble man." He was well up in electro-therapeutics; I don't know where he learned it, but he seemed to be well versed. My mother was rather nervous, and he did really help her. Then he brought out his scheme of founding an institution for the education of doctors—he called them doctor-priests; every priest was supposed to be a doctor; and in that way they would benefit mankind and humanity in general.

Q. You believed he was a doctor? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then did he leave without any further declaration of his intentions, or was it then arranged that he should establish this institution? A. It was then arranged. He said it was the object of the order; that he had unlimited wealth, millions, to establish the work, as he called it, in this country; but that it was against the rule of the order to give any money out of the treasury; that each country was to start the thing itself; that he was looking round for some one who would give it a start; and he laid great stress upon the great things that would devolve upon the family through helping him. Then my mother offered to give \$5,000, with the permission of my father. I do not know what conversation she had with father about it, but I know that she did promise that, and with father's consent. And there is one thing that I might explain that would justify my father in what he did, and which I do not think he explained, and that is the fact that my mother is a woman of unusual mind; she is a literary woman, and my father, being a business man, looked up to her as a superior woman and allowed her to arrange all the household affairs and things like that as she liked, so that they did not interfere with his business. He seemed to believe fully that she had superior wisdom in those things. So that when she proposed this gift of \$5,000 he, believing so thoroughly in her capacity and her superior wisdom, naturally agreed to do what she wished, according to the representations of her and Howard.

Q. Did Howard at that time make any representations as to his past career? A. No, he did not, to my knowledge.

Q. Did he, so far as you know, state where he had come from? A. No, sir; that is a mystery, excepting that he was living in Montreal at that time. He seemed to like to throw an air of mystery about himself.

Q. And, I suppose, constantly kept that air of mystery about him?  
A. Yes, sir; he did.

Q. He left, you say, at the end of about three weeks, so far as you know? A. Yes; but he didn't have money to go away with, and I know father had to give him \$500 or \$600; he did that the same as he would help any preacher, for father was always very charitable to ministers.

Q. So he helped him in that way, by giving him the money to take him away from St. Louis?

#### REGARDED AS A PRIEST.

A. Yes, sir; my idea, and father's and mother's idea, was the same—we looked upon him almost the same as a clergyman or priest in any church.

Q. What was the next you heard of him? A. The next I heard of him was when I went to Montreal. I can tell you exactly when that was; it was at the June races, the latter part of June or early part of July, 1891. I know I got into some scrape and my father was very angry about it and refused to have anything to do with me, and mother said to me, "Well, why don't you go to Dr. Howard?" I said: "Go to Dr. Howard, for what?" She said: "Go there and study medicine under him." Well, I thought of the man then as a superior man, and thought he might do me some good. So I made up my mind that if his religion was what he represented it to be I would become a neophyte, and not only study medicine with him, but become one of his men. So I went to Montreal, and the day I arrived there—I had not previously communicated with him to tell him that I was coming, and I don't know whether my mother had, but I arrived at his residence, 209 St. Antoine street, and the girl admitted me, and soon Howard came in and said: "I have been expecting you. Your room is prepared," with an air of mystery. So I did not say anything to him, and he asked me to meet his wife; I had not met her before. She came and looked at me, and after she went out he very kindly told me that she liked me, and that the influences around me were very good, with the exception of one of my ancestors, who was driving me to drink, but that a few months under his care would totally eliminate that evil influence.

Q. How long did you remain in Montreal? A. I stayed there four months.

Q. During that time what did you do, so far as he was concerned? A. For the first two or three months I studied chemistry under him, but I found him to be inconsistent, not only in his teachings, but in his life; and then I ceased to believe in him. My idol was shattered, and I just looked upon him as a scoundrel.

Q. In what respect were you disappointed in his conduct?

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## HOWARD ON DUCKS.

A. I found him to be a liar. To give you an example, and to show you how he was looked upon as others in the house, Quintus Price was there later on; Mrs. Howard looked upon him before me as if he were a god and not a man. I never did, I must say that. One day he was talking about ducks, and claimed to be a great shooter. He was always very ready to impart information to me, and he said to me, "Joseph, you know that the canvas-back duck is the male mallard." I said, "You are mistaken; they are a distinct species." He said, "No, it is not a distinct species." I said, "I will leave it to Webster." So I looked it up in the dictionary and found that he was mistaken. Then he deliberately turned round and said Webster was wrong. So that settled it with me.

Q. Was there anything else in his conduct? A. I know in his instructions in chemistry he would say one thing one day, and afterward deny that he had said it. So I threw up the study of chemistry under him, and told him I would not study under a man when I had lost my respect for him.

Q. How long were you there altogether? A. Four months, probably longer. As the four months came toward a close I wrote to my father that I did not believe in the man, and not to send him any more money; that he was a scoundrel, and was trying to cheat him; that he did not have any religion. He could not get a decent servant to work for him. He told me at one time that if any one drank whisky in his house the elementals, the evil forces, would come around him, he was so sensitive, and worry him, and in that way he could tell when anyone was drinking whisky. But while I was there he had a woman who was drunk all the time, and he did not know it. So that I found that he was a liar. Then he told me also that he could sit downstairs when I would be writing a letter upstairs, and he could tell me exactly what I had written. I suppose he did that in order to keep me from writing what I thought about him, but that did not deter me. He left Montreal before I did.

Q. Then you had a very good opportunity to study the man's character during those four months? A. Yes, sir.

## WAS A HYPNOTIST.

Q. The conclusion you came to was that he was a hypnotist? A. He never influenced me except at first. After I lived in his house I began to suspect him. Quintus Price, the man who was there with me, struck me as a man who had lost his entire will power; he was just like a child; was extremely nervous, and I used to treat him like a baby. I brought him and Mr. Howard's dog down to Gunston when I came, and I had more trouble with the man than I had with the dog.

Q. You left Montreal in what month? A. It was in the fall of the year, because I remember I got some heavy clothing. It must have been in October that I left, but he left a month before that.

Q. Then where did you go? A. I wrote my father that I did not care to stay with him any more. Howard having left, contemplating moving to Gunston; he had gone down there to look after things and straighten up, so as to move the furniture and things, and all the time he was away the people were coming to the house trying to collect money that he owed them, and Mrs. Howard had the burden to bear. Inasmuch as I was a guest in the house at that time, and inasmuch as I thought he was doing this work for his love of me, although my father was sending him a hundred dollars a month for my board and tuition—and the board was bad enough—but feeling that I was a guest in the house, I volunteered to stay there and pack his medicines and everything he had, so as to relieve Mrs. Howard of so much trouble in getting ready to move to Gunston. Then she suggested that I take Cisco, the dog, which was considered to be very valuable and prized by Dr. Howard, and Quintus Price down with me and look after them. So I did. This was in October.

Q. Howard came to Gunston, and, according to the evidence, went backward and forward once or twice before he eventually settled in Gunston; that is, went back to Montreal, apparently, once or twice, and then settled in Gunston. Was he settled when you got there? A. He was settled when I got there. They had one little cottage, and I remember that when I arrived there, I of course went to his house, having been his guest, and spent the first night with him; and he was frightened to death when I told him I was going to Gunston Hall; and he said to me—I remember his exact words—he says: "Joseph, if you will take my advice, you will never cross the Gunston Hall line." Some time previous to my going there—I got this from the neighbors—he had stated that I was a drunkard, a wild Western cowboy, and he was going to reform me; that my father had placed me in his care, and he was going to take care of me. So, naturally, when I got down there at the wharf the people just crowded there to see me. I didn't know why they were all there. I had on a big hat, and if I had known what they expected, I would have had a gun with me and fired it off. But I didn't know that. I was the most peaceable man in the world, and everybody watched me, but I didn't do anything that was unusual, and went up to the house.

#### SAW HIS SCHEME THEN.

He had told my mother that I was one of the elect; that it was predestinated that I should be made one of the priests of the order. I saw his scheme then. His scheme was to get my mother and to get me, and then he thought if he got my mother and myself, he would have no trouble in getting my father.

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## HOWARD'S PECULIAR AND MARKED OB- JECTION TO BEING SKETCHED.

The Plaintiff and His Friends Attract Attention in the Court.

THE EXAMINATION OF HOWARD ON DISCOVERY—HE RE-  
FUSES TO ANSWER MANY QUESTIONS—HIS OWN  
VERSION OF HIS DOINGS AND FLIGHT.



**Dr. G. S. Howard, Sketched by the Star's Special Artist at  
the Trial.**

(Continued from Yesterday.)

Special to the Star.

Perth, Ont., April 29.—The crowds of people who thronged the court room here during the famous Brahmo-philosopho-mummery trial had plenty to interest them in the evidence, but none of the revelations, sad, grotesque, blasphemous or merely scandalous, had more interest for the spectators, who hemmed in the court constables

to such an extent that they were completely incapacitated for performing their duties, than the plaintiff Howard and his party.

At each sitting of the court, Howard, stalwart and apparently unconcerned, his broad, but slightly stooping shoulders and splendidly shaped head towering above the heads of everybody else, quietly walked into court, followed by four ladies, the youngest of whom was accompanied by a perfect cherub of a fat-faced, rosy-cheeked, golden-haired little lad of about five. It was a party that would attract universal attention on St. James street, for they were unquestionably a distinguished looking lot. Howard, himself, is a man to delight the eye of the artist, face, figure and bearing being singularly nearly attaining the ideal, the ideal of the sage and philosopher rather than the dashing cavalry one would look for and certainly find in a retired commanding officer of the 17th Lancers, "The Duke of Cambridge's Own," or "Death or Glory Boys." But for a rather heavy streak of grey in what was once a coal black beard he might pass for a man of not over forty. He is probably nearer sixty. His classical, clean-cut face, with its large and aquiline nose, with thinly chiselled and sensitive nostrils, shows neither hollow nor wrinkle. But those who know Howard say that the charm about him is his voice, which is soft, low and well modulated. It is a pleasure they say to hear him speak, and as the mood seizes him his brown eyes melt into a deep black, full of mystery, or flash with a fire that makes a weaker will quail before him. He is more than magnetic—there is a fascination in his presence which may or may not be attributed to occult powers. But materialists in this materialistic age naturally regard the claims made as to his occult powers with cynicism and suspicion.

Howard was plainly though comfortably enough attired, and by his dress might easily have been taken for a country preacher. He wore an overcoat all the time in court, though most of those who were present found the temperature rather uncomfortably warm. He always walks into the court room ahead of his female companions, and they sat down alongside of him in the available seats near the front of the court.

#### MORE COMMISSION EVIDENCE.

The reading of the evidence of Rev. Joseph Specht, taken before the commission, was continued.

Q. Now, coming down to Gunston and his terms there, did you ever see any of the mysterious document which Howard pretended to have? A. Yes, he showed me some one day. I had always heard that the highest degree a mason could take was the 33rd degree, but he showed me some degrees—they were supposed to be degrees—that went as high as 170 and away up there, which could only be obtained in the East, and he made out charts for me and everybody.

Q. You mean horoscopes, like these (exhibiting)? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you got one that he made for you? A. No, sir.

Q. Did you ever see these horoscopes? A. I have seen these before, but I do not suppose I saw them in his possession. I can identify these as in his handwriting.

Q. These are in his handwriting? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What does he mean by these? A. He claimed that by the aid of these horoscopes, he could read the future.

Q. Now we will come to this work at Gunston: What did he do there? So far as you could observe, did he carry out to a conclusion any of the objects that he undertook? A. No, sir. In the first place, he told me personally that when the cornerstone was laid—and it had to be laid before or about the time of the vernal equinox, which was the twentieth of September, and that was while I was in Montreal—that when the cornerstone was laid at Gunston, Va., all the kingdoms of the world could not prevail against the order, and that centuries hence that would still be there in a firm state. He believed that at certain seasons of the year the spiritual influences would hover nearer man than at any other time; also that at 4 o'clock in the morning the guardian angels would change watch; he told me all such things himself. With reference to that \$5,000, to my personal knowledge, he never paid but \$10 on the purchase price of \$1,000, and I know that the improvements on the property did not cost him over \$1,000 altogether at the most. So what he did with the \$4,000 was to spend it on himself. His living expenses were almost nothing, because even the food for his horses was brought down from my father's place.

Q. In connection with working up the order and carrying out these grand schemes which he promulgated and promised, what did he do, if he did anything? A. He did nothing.

Q. I mean in the three years he was at Gunston, from the spring of 1891 to the spring of 1894; what did he do? Was there any noticeable work going on? A. No, sir; there was not.

Q. Did he do anything toward bringing in many people, making the world better and all that? A. No, sir. From what I saw of the man's character, and his methods, his object in coming to Gunston was merely to barnacle himself on my father, and eventually to secure his wealth and property.

Q. What was his life like there? Do you know anything about it—not only at Gunston, but at Washington?

#### TOLD OBSCENE STORIES.

A. I know this: He was a man addicted to telling dirty stories; I am sure of that, because he has told me a great many.

Q. You mean obscene stories? A. Yes, sir. And he was given to the use of tobacco; he chewed tobacco and smoked. And as he was so strict with other people, that shows he was not consistent.

Q. Do you mean to say that Howard actually indulged in reciting obscene stories in obscene language? A. Undoubtedly; yes, sir.

Q. Did he tell you stories of that kind? A. Yes, sir.



Q. Do you know whether he told them to others? A. Yes, sir. I know he has told such stories to the Kesters, who live in the neighborhood of Gunston Hall, a very nice family.

#### HOWARD'S WORK.

Q. What was the effect of all this Howard's work upon your mother and her relations to her family? A. It made her very visionary. She imagined she saw elementals and forces, and she thought she was clairvoyant and clairaudient. She went out into the kitchen one day and took the bread out of the oven that had been put there by the cook and stamped all over it. In answer to the question what she did it for, she said it was possessed by the devil; every horse and every dog had an evil spirit or a good spirit. I remember once my mother in my company was driven up to the house by me, and the horse jumped a little, and she wanted to get right out; she said there was a curse at Gunston Hall, and Howard made her believe it was cursed because he did not have possession of it. I told her if she did not have any more faith than that she ought to get some other religion. She did not say a word in reply. But she really did not get any benefit out of her religion, because she was in constant fear all the time.

Q. In fear of what? A. Elementals and evil spirits.

Q. Where were you at the time Howard left Gunston? A. I was up in Washington.

Q. Do you know anything of his leaving Washington suddenly? A. Yes, sir. I was right here in Washington, helping to instigate proceedings; I thought he was going to leave, and I wanted to get his picture taken, and sure enough he did leave, and when they went to New York for him he had left; the reason he left was because he feared arrest in New York. I am satisfied of that.

Q. How are you satisfied of that? A. Because he left so hurriedly, and because he knew proceedings were going to be instituted against him.

Q. Did you tell him? A. No, sir, I did not. But my father went down and told him that he would either have to tell us who he was or get out. That was sufficient invitation.

Q. Your father told him he would put him in a penitentiary if he did not go? A. Yes, sir.

#### HOWARD'S NUMEROUS DIGNITIES.

Q. Was it at that time that Howard informed you about occupying all these different positions? A. He told me of his different positions in Montreal and also while at Gunston. I can give you a lot of information on this subject, showing how ridiculous his claims were.

Q. Take first those that are set out in the warrant, that he was an English nobleman belonging to the Norfolk branch of the How-

. Yes, sir.  
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ard family. Was that one of the statements he made that you heard?  
A. Oh, yes. He also made the same statement to Colonel Van  
Stamph, who was a member of the Danish Legation in Washing-  
ton, and he can verify that.

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Q Take next his claim that he cultivated 20,000 acres of land in  
Northumberland, near the Scotch border; that he claimed acquain-  
tance with the Duke of Newcastle when the Duke accompanied  
the Prince of Wales to this country in or prior to 1861. Was that  
one of the statements he made, that he had been in the suite of the  
Prince of Wales? A. Yes, sir.

Q. He was colonel of the 17th Lancers. Then he went from Eng-  
land to India and then became the head of a religious order having  
its headquarters in India, and having for its object the dissemination  
of the Brahmin-Indian philosophy; that such philosophy was to be  
substituted for the Christian religion. Did he state that it was to  
be substituted? A. Yes, sir. I don't think he did. But he said it  
was superior to the Christian religion; just like Christianity came  
in when Judaism was in existence; it was not to be entirely substi-  
tuted, but they said that they were partakers in a better dispensa-  
tion.

Q. That as head of that order he was entitled to be designated the  
Sage of Aru? A. That was supposed to be his title in India.

Q. Is that what he stated, that he was entitled to that designation  
in India? A. Yes, sir.

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Q. Then he came to the United States at the bidding of the coun-  
cil, with instructions to establish and open a college in Fairfax  
county, Va., where the said philosophy and other principles of said  
order might be taught. Was that the way he put it, or was it that  
he was to establish his seat of learning near the capital of this  
country? A. He said both, it seems to me; that it would be advan-  
tageous to have it near the capital of this country. He really had  
magnificent schemes in view, but of course they never came out as  
predicted.

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Q. In addition to that, did he say that he had been an officer  
in the 17th Lancers? A. That he was a colonel of the 17th Lancers.  
He was a colonel in the Sepoy rebellion, as he said. So you can im-  
agine that he must be a pretty old man.

Q. Yes, for that was in 1857.

#### HER MAJESTY'S CLOSE FRIEND.

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He was a member of the Royal Yacht Club, and was a great  
friend of the Queen; that in her presence he was allowed to retain  
his hat upon his head; that he would take off his hat, and she would  
say, "Don't uncover." He told me that. He was a great man.  
Then he was also Prince of Praagaya. But he had so many titles—  
and then he was a very good painter, and a carpenter by trade, and  
he really was a pretty good carpenter. I have never seen any of  
his paintings. But he was a very versatile man, very showy, but

it was all on the surface. He had a Knight Templar's sword, an ordinary cheap sword, with which he used to drive away the evil spirits before commencing his services. I might give you some information that proves him an awful liar, and that is that he met his present wife in London at a reception given by Charles Dickens. I learned of this up in Montreal.

Q. Howard, the plaintiff, lived altogether a little over three years at Gunston. From your observation, what was he doing during that time? What was the principal work he was engaged in? A. He spent a great deal of time in Washington. He was very fond of luxuries, fond of dress, and he wore fur overcoats in the winter time; fond of nice horses, at one time he had a ten-acre farm, almost a garden patch, and he had three horses there. He always had the very best things; did not live plainly by any means.

Q. He lived well? A. Yes, sir, he did.

Q. Then he visited your mother often at Gunston? A. Yes, sir; though she more frequently drove down to his place with my sister.

Q. Generally speaking, what was the effect of this man's introduction to your mother in 1891? A. It seemed to have this effect on her: that she did not care for anything else; it made her selfish, which she never was before; she seemed to lose all affection for her family, and had but one end in view, and that was the salvation of her own soul, and if possible of her husband's soul, by using the same means. I have got this from her myself—that in consequence of my father not being her spirit-mate, not coming up to her standard, he and she were really living in adultery when they lived together. That is what she told me, and that it was absolutely necessary that father should either join the order with her, or she would have to leave him.

Q. Then it broke up the family in that sense? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And I suppose it had a serious effect upon your father's happiness for some considerable time? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Were any efforts made to get her to return home. A. I write to her every once in a while and always tell her that she is always welcome to live with me. And I never have failed to remember her at Christmas or anything like that.

#### HOWARD'S RITUALS.

Q. Did you ever see the ritual for classes that Howard made out? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Look at the ritual I now hand you, and state whether that was prepared by him? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you see his writing in it? A. I think this penmanship that is interlined in the typewriting is his writing. My mother had several copies of the ritual, and copies were sent to different places.

(Two drafts of said ritual were filed herewith, the Court admitting them, though objected to.)

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Q. Do you know anything about the steps that were taken to have extradition proceedings instituted against Howard. A. Only so far that when we heard he was in New York, then we had to get requisition papers on the Governor of New York, and we were told in Virginia that it was possible to get him extradited.

Q. Do you know about advising with Carlisle & Johnson on that subject? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And of their making preparations to have extradition proceedings instituted? A. They said it was possible, but they advised that as he was out of the country, it would be better to let him remain.

Q. That was after consideration. A. Yes, sir.

Q. Your father spoke to you about making preparation for extradition, and then dropping it? A. I don't remember the points. I know I went with a man to New York to bring him back; I went to New York with the requisition papers.

Q. Then you obtained requisition papers from the Governor of Virginia? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you went with the detective to New York. A. Yes, sir.

Q. What did you do there? A. We had a letter which he had mailed. Through the postoffice authorities here we were allowed access to his mail, and through the medium of detectives whenever there was a letter addressed to Mrs. Howard or to his lawyer we could read those letters; and in that way we found that he was in New York, and we even knew the station where he had mailed his letter. So we went to the station and I saw the New York Chief of Police, and he detailed a couple of detectives to look him up. Then I described the man in order that if they met him on the street he might be arrested, but it was discovered that he had gone to Canada and so we returned.

Q. How long were you there? A. Three days.

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#### AT GUNSTON HALL.

Thursday, March 24, 1898.

The commission resumed its sittings at Gunston Hall, Va., for the examination of witnesses there, Mr. Hogg, representing the defendants, being present, no representative appearing for the plaintiff. Only brief extracts of this evidence were read to the jury, the defense considering the case already strong enough.

Aurelius Allen, a witness called on behalf of the defendant, having been duly sworn, testified, among other things, as follows:

By Mr. Hogg—

Q. What is your occupation? A. I am a farmer at present. During the time that Dr. Howard was here I kept the postoffice and attended the farm, and I carried the mail.

Q. Had you conversation with him? A. Oh, yes, sir.

Q. Did he ever say anything about becoming the owner of Guns-

ton Hall? A. He asked me what would I think to see him become the owner of Gunston Hall.

Q. Did he say how he would become the owner of it? A. He did not.

John Sheppard, a witness on behalf of the defendants, having been duly sworn, testified, among other things, as follows:

By Mr. Hogg:

Q. Where do you live? A. I live up in Mount Vernon district, near Accotink.

Q. What is your business? A. Fishing.

Q. Do you know Mr. Joseph Specht? A. Yes, sir; since he came to Gunston I have known him, that is, since 1891.

Q. How have you found him? A. I have found him a perfect gentleman.

Q. Did you know Dr. Howard, the plaintiff in this case? A. Yes, sir; I knew Howard.

Q. Where did he live? A. He lived down here in this place that belonged to Col. Daniels, which he pretended to buy, or did buy, from Miss Freeman.

Q. Had he a house on it? A. Yes, sir; and he added little improvements—built a barn and a little cottage outside.

Q. Did you meet Howard frequently? A. Yes, sir; sometimes every day for a week. I have seen him there often, very often, I reckon a hundred or two hundred times a year.

Q. Did he ever make any representations to you of his financial position? A. Well, he used to talk like he had plenty of money.

#### HOW HOWARD WORKED.

Q. What was he doing, so far as you know? A. Well, I didn't see him doing much of anything. He pretended to come here as a doctor and practice medicine, but he didn't do anything for a livelihood here; pretended to be living on the interest of his money.

Q. Did he ever practice medicine? A. No, sir; not that I know of at all.

Q. Did he ever speak to you of his religious views? A. Well, I have heard him talk several times about his religion.

Q. Did he ever try to get you to be one of his followers? A. I didn't understand him when he talked on that subject.

Q. Do you know of his trying to get others in this neighborhood to follow him? A. No, sir; not personally. I have heard he did, but I don't know for a certainty that he did.

Q. Then, what was he doing generally, so far as you could see? A. The most I saw him doing was walking up and down, and rowing up and down the creek, and going backward and forward on the steamboat between here and Washington.

Q. Did he ever speak of his speculations in grain and stock? A. Oh, yes, sir; I have heard him speak of that, and what he had done, and how much money he had made.

Q. What was the nature of his conversation? Did he give you the impression of being a very pious man? A. Well, no; he didn't. He pretended to be a little of everything, I believe.

Q. Did you know anything about his so-called religion? A. No, sir, I didn't.

Q. Did you ever see him dressed in a peculiar fashion? A. Yes, sir; I have seen him with his uniform on; that is, with his arms on him, marching around. I saw him go out of the house and march around, and I saw him fire a rifle. He has his pistols around him, and had a sword hung to his side, and they followed him around.

Q. Who followed him around? A. Mr. Specht and his wife, walking around in the fields and yards.

Q. What was he shooting the rifle for? A. I don't know; that was a part I couldn't understand.

Q. Did he explain to you what he was doing? A. No, he didn't explain; only that he said that was included in his belief.

Q. That that was part of his religious belief? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he ever say anything about Gunston Hall and the property there? A. No, sir; not any more than he told me one day that Gunston Hall and all belonged to Mrs. Specht, and he was interceding for Mrs. Specht.

Q. Interceding for Mrs. Specht with whom? A. I supposed he meant he was attending to her business for her.

Q. Did he ever say that Gunston Hall would be his property? A. I don't know if he ever did. If he did I disremember.

Q. Ben Venue is a property belonging to Mr. Specht? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did Howard tell you he was looking after that property? A. Yes, sir; and discharged servants, and he did discharge one because he didn't want him in the house.

Q. Did he ever say anything about his looking after Mr. Specht?

A. Yes, sir; he told me that he was guardian for Mr. Specht; that Mr. Specht wasn't capable of attending to his business.

#### HOWARD'S HORSES AND DOGS.

Q. How many acres of land had Howard there? A. I don't think he had but about five.

Q. How many horses had he there? A. At one time I think he had four and three at other times.

Q. Did he require all those horses for that farm? A. No, sir; he couldn't well keep one at work at that time; in fact, he didn't work those horses of any consequence. He just kept them there, and those men he had there would ride them around every day for exercise.

Q. Did you ever know why he kept those horses there? A. I couldn't tell why he did it. He had one that he said he had paid

a thousand dollars for, but when the horses were sold I think the mother and colt only brought \$65. That was the best horse he had.

Q. Did you ever see his dog? A. Oh, yes, sir. He had some dogs there that he valued at \$1,000 a piece that I suppose were hardly worth killing.

Q. Did you know Cisco, the yellow dog? A. Yes, sir; I think I did see him with that kind of a dog. He had three outside of that, though, and he might have had four. He told me that two pointer dogs he had were registered, and I think he said they cost \$10,000 or \$15,000.

Q. Do you know anything about dogs? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What do you say about them? A. They were not worth anything. They were just ordinary dogs, only fit to eat and bark. I have been a gunner all my life, and got as fine dogs as any man ever owned. I was surprised at his statements about the dogs. I had an idea, from the way he talked, that he thought that everybody down here in Virginia were cranks because he tried to lead them to believe that way.

Mary Freeman, a witness called on behalf of the defendants, having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

By Mr. Hogg:

Q. Where do you live? A. I live in this neighborhood, and have been living here about twelve years, with Miss Freeman.

Q. Did Howard, the plaintiff here, have possession of that place?

A. Yes, sir. He made a bargain to purchase it from Miss Freeman.

Q. Do you know how much he paid for it? A. He was to pay her \$1,000, but he paid her \$10.

Q. Do you know that as a fact? A. Yes, sir; because I saw the \$10 in Miss Freeman's hands.

Q. Do you know whether he ever paid any more for it? A. No, sir; I don't know that he ever did. He certainly didn't before he left the house, not a cent more.

Q. Do you remember that he left in 1894? A. But this was in 1891 that he made the transaction.

Q. Up to the time he left, do you know whether he paid Miss Freeman any more? A. Nothing more was paid.

Q. What position did you occupy in his house? A. I cooked for him and had control of the place until his wife came from Montreal; made his beds, attended to his clothes and cooked and done everything that he wanted around the house.

Q. What did he say, if anything, about being a prince or a king? A. That was with reference to his religion. He had the highest honor and they had called him a prince, it seemed like, in this religious business, because he was the founder of it, the highest man. They called him prince.

Q. Who called him prince? A. He said the people called him prince.



Q. Did he hold religious worship of any kind in the house? A. Oh, yes, sir. The house was a double parlor, folding doors between, and the doctor and Mrs. Howard had a long purple robe with tassels, and Mrs. Specht came one day, and Mrs. Howard said that the doctor was administering the holy writs. I don't know what that was.

### LIKE A BAPTISING GOWN.

Q. What was the dress he had on? A. It was just like a baptising gown. I think the gown had purple tassels, and he had a cap, and the gown was something like they wear in the circus.

Q. Had he a sword or any weapons about him? A. If I ain't mistaken he did have something hanging down at his side, but I am near-sighted and didn't see very well. He put on that performance very often at night, and his wife would go through it.

Q. What did they go through? A. Of course I wasn't admitted.

Q. How did he come to tell you that he was a prince and king in his country? A. He used to talk a good deal at nights. There would be just the three of us there, and he showed us his diplomas. I didn't know what they were—great long rolls. They were in Latin, not English, and we couldn't read them.

Q. What country did he say he came from? A. India; and his wife, he said, was an Indian woman also.

Q. Did he tell you what the name of his religion was? A. It had a "K" in it, I think.

Q. Was it the Brahmin-Indian religion? A. Yes, sir; that is it exactly, but he had another name for it, a long name, and it had a "K" in it.

Q. Sat Bah Kooah? A. Yes, sir; that's what it was.

Q. How long have you known Mr. Specht? A. Ever since he has been here.

Q. How have you found him? A. A perfect gentleman in every respect, helping the poor and giving them work. Mr. Specht has been the salvation to the poor people since he has been here.

William Spencer Freeman, a witness on behalf of the defendants, having been duly sworn, testified among other things, as follows:

By Mr. Hogg:

Q. Where do you live? A. At Gunston.

Q. How long have you lived there? A. All my life.

Q. Did you work for Dr. Howard? A. I did.

Q. At what time? A. It was in the year 1891.

Q. How long? A. About three months.

Q. He came there in August or in the summer of 1891? A. I don't know the dates. Me and my wife worked for him.

Q. Did he ever tell you of what he was going to do? A. He said he was going to have an institution, and he was president of the institution.

Q. What was it for? A. To cure inebriates.

Q. Did he build the institution? A. Well, he started it; but when it was built it was a barn. Some days he would be more communicative than others. He started it for a barn, but one day he walked out and looked at the building, and he says: "William"—he always called me by my first name—"William, I am going to build this so that I can turn it into a house at a moment's notice." It seemed he wanted to have it understood that some parties were backing him up in the money business and about the people he was going to teach, and he was going to turn this into an inebriate asylum. He built the barn, but he never used it only to store stuff in. It was only being completed when I left.

Q. Was it ever completed, as a matter of fact? A. No.

#### A HARD-SHELL BAPTIST.

Q. Did he ever tell you about his being very high up in a religious order? A. I never had any confidence in his faith, and I think he discovered that, and so he never told me anything about his religion; but I gave him to understand that I was raised a Baptist, and my belief was that and I didn't see how anybody could be anything else, as I understood it; and I think he discovered that and didn't press his religion.

Q. How long have you known Mr. Specht? A. Ever since he came here.

Q. How have you found him? A. A gentleman. I have worked for Mr. Specht every year he has been in this vicinity, I believe, except one.

T. F. Chapman, a witness on behalf of the defendants, having been duly sworn, testified, among other things, as follows:

By Mr. Hogg:

Q. What is your official position? A. I was a justice of the peace, but am not now.

Q. When did you cease to be justice of the peace? A. The 1st of July, 1897.

Q. Where did you live? A. In Fairfax county, Va., at a place called Hallowing.

Q. Do you know Mr. Specht? A. Very well, sir.

Q. How do you find him? A. A very square man in every respect; no complaint to be found against him. He is doing good work in his neighborhood. He contributes very liberally to the church and is a member and vestryman of Pohick church.

Q. How long have you known him? A. Ever since he came here, about seven years ago.

Q. Did you know Dr. Howard? A. I did.

Q. Did you come in contact with him much? A. Yes, sir. He was at my house several times. He and Dr. Nidelet attended me during a spell of kidney trouble I had, and when Dr. Howard went away for four or five days he left Dr. Nidelet there.

Q. And Dr. Nidelet attended you as a physician? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know anything about Dr. Howard's affairs here? A. Nothing in the world. I know nothing in the world about his business, and to be candid I know nothing of his troubles with Mr. Specht or his religion. He and I never talked about his religious affairs. Dr. Howard knew me, but he never approached me about his religion or anything about his order.

Q. Did he ever talk to you about his institution?—A. He never opened his mouth to me about it.

The further taking of testimony under this commission was thereupon adjourned to 3 o'clock p. m. of this day at Fleischman's Hotel, in Alexandria, Va.

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# WARRANT FOR HOWARD'S ARREST.

Issued by the Mayor of Alexandria, Va.

## DR. HOWARD CHARGED WITH THE LARCENY OF FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS—INDICTMENTS AGAINST HIM IN FAIRFAX COUNTY, VA.

Thursday, March 24, 1898.

Met pursuant to adjournment, Mr. Hogg being present on behalf of the defendants, no representative appearing for the plaintiff.

Henry Strauss, a witness called for the defendants, having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

By Mr. Hogg:

Q. Where do you reside? A. In Alexandria, Va.

Q. What official position have you held in Alexandria? A. I was mayor four years.

Q. What years were those? A. From 1891 to 1895, I believe.

Q. As such you were a magistrate, I suppose? A. A magistrate *ex officio*.

Q. Do you remember an information being laid before you May 13, 1894? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who was it that laid that information? A. Joseph Specht.

Q. That is, Joseph Specht, of St. Louis and Gunston Hall? A. Of St. Louis I didn't know; but I know he is Joseph Specht, of Gunston Hall, Va.

Q. Was there a written information laid before you? A. No, sir.

Q. Then how was the warrant issued? A. It was issued on the complaint of Joseph Specht, on account of Granby S. Howard being an embezzler or defaulter for \$5,000 from Mrs. Specht. It was on Sunday morning, I remember very well, he appeared at my house, and then he went over to the office, and the chief issued the warrant and I signed it. The warrant, however, was signed by the mayor, according to law, and the warrant was then placed in the possession of Officer Young.

Q. What record have you in the police records of this warrant having been issued? A. (Producing book.) There is the stub in this book, showing the substance of the warrant, but the warrant has been mislaid.

Q. Then you have not the warrant itself? A. No, sir; it was mislaid or misplaced.

Q. And the information was laid before you verbally? A. Yes, sir.

Q. So that all the records you have now is the stub? A. The stub merely, showing the complaint, and that the warrant was issued on information furnished by Mr. Specht of embezzlement by Howard obtaining \$5,000 from Mrs. Specht.

Q. That is the statement that is still of record in the police department? A. Yes, sir. "Complainant, Joseph Specht; person accused, Granby S. Howard; offense, stealing \$5,000; date, May 13, 1894; officer, Young."

A copy of this stub record, certified by the commissioner, under whom this testimony is taken, was filed.

Q. What is the meaning of that part of the record, "Officer, Young?" A. That means that the warrant was placed in the hands of Banner T. Young, an officer, to make the arrest.

Q. And that book remains of record in the police department? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You say that was on a Sunday morning that Mr. Specht came there? A. Yes, sir; very early in the morning.

Q. Did you know Mr. Specht before he came there? A. Yes, sir; I was formerly engaged in business here in Alexandria, and he would come in my store, and I have had his checks, and for that reason I knew him.

Q. How did you find him? A. I found him an honorable, high-toned gentleman.

James F. Webster, a witness called for defendants, having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

By Mr. Hogg:

Q. What is your official position? A. I am chief of police of the city of Alexandria, Va.

Q. Were you chief of police in May, 1894? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you remember preparing a warrant on the 13th of May, 1894? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Preparing a warrant on the complaint of whom? A. Mr. Joseph Specht.

Q. Was that a part of the duty you performed? A. It has always been the custom. I generally fill out warrants on printed forms.

#### THE USUAL COURSE FOLLOWED.

Q. Then how was the information given to you? A. Mr. Specht appeared here with the mayor. It has been so long I won't be positive, but I know I saw Mr. Specht talking with the mayor there in the police office. I think Mr. Specht questioned me whether I knew this Dr. G. S. Howard, but I did not know him. Upon the request of the mayor I filled out this warrant, charging Dr. Howard with the larceny of \$5,000, the money and property of Mr. Joseph Specht. The mayor was there and signed the warrant.

Q. And that was the actual course you pursued? A. That is the usual course that has always been pursued. Understand me, I don't fill out every warrant, but as a general thing I do.

Q. Did you make a copy of that warrant? A. No, sir; just merely filled out the warrant and made the entry on this stub at the same time in this book, which is of record; in fact, that stub was entered before the warrant was filled out.

Q. The warrant then was the piece which was attached to this stub? A. Yes, sir; that was torn off from this stub.

Q. Then having the warrant filled out and signed, what did you do with it? A. I placed it in the hands of Officer Young. I understood that Howard lived down near Gunston Hall, in Fairfax county; that he was expected to go by Alexandria on the steamboat, and that probably he might stop here; and Mr. Young, you understand, was on that beat. This town is laid off in beats, and Officer Young was at that time on that beat; so I placed it in the hands of Mr. Young, to be executed if he could find Dr. Howard.

Q. With instructions to have it executed if he could find Howard? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then what became of the warrant itself? A. The warrant remained in Mr. Young's hands. Mr. Young mislaid it, I think; at least I don't think any return was made of it into the office. I have no recollection of it, but I have a recollection that the warrant was issued on a complaint of Mr. Specht, and that is what it was issued for. I never saw Mr. Specht before that day. I had often heard of him.

Q. And this is an original book? A. Yes, sir.

Q. You could not give me this book to take away? A. No, sir.

Q. It is part of the records of the police department? A. It is part of the records of the police department.

Q. So that if I were to ask you for it you would have to decline? A. Yes, sir.

#### ATTEMPTED HOWARD'S ARREST.

Banner T. Young, a witness for the defendants, having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

By Mr. Hogg:

Q. What is your official position? A. I am on the police force of the city of Alexandria, Va.

Q. How long have you been on that police force? A. I suppose about twelve years.

Q. So that you were a police officer on the 13th of May, 1894? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you remember what day of the week that was? A. It was on a Sunday.

Q. Tell me what happened that morning? A. The warrant was made out and given to me, and the captain told me to go to the wharf and see if I could find this Mr. Howard on the boat; that this was a warrant charging Howard with the larceny of \$5,000. So I proceeded to the wharf, and Mr. Specht was with me. He said: "We will go down, and I may see him on the front of the boat, and

if I do I will point him out to you." We went down to the wharf, and when the boat came up we examined the boat, but could not find him. He did not come up on the boat that day.

Q. You had a warrant in your possession at the time? A. Yes, sir; and if I had seen him there I would have taken him into custody. Those were my instructions, and that was my duty.

Q. How long did you keep that warrant? A. I had that warrant, as near as I can recollect, about a week.

Q. And were you keeping a lookout for Howard?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Were you able to execute it? A. No, sir; I didn't see him at all.

Q. What did you do with the warrant? A. I either put it on the file or it was mislaid in some way. I didn't see anything more of the warrant afterward. It was searched for afterward by the captain and myself, but we could not find it. What became of the warrant I don't know, but I think it was mislaid by either being put on the desk or being put on the file, as near as I can remember. That has been a good while ago.

Q. Were you present when the warrant was sworn out? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Who administered the oath to Mr. Specht? A. Mayor Strauss.

Q. And it was upon that sworn information then that the warrant was issued? A. Yes, sir.

## THE SECOND WARRANT.

Friday, March 25, 1898.

Met pursuant to adjournment at the office of Hon. James M. Love, in Fairfax court-house, Va., at 10 o'clock a. m., Mr. Hogg, representing the defendants, being present, no representative appearing for the plaintiff.

Hon. James M. Love, a witness on behalf of the defendants, having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

By Mr. Hogg:

Q. What is your position? A. I am judge of the county courts of Fairfax and Alexandria counties.

Q. Is that an appointive office? A. No, sir; I was elected by the Legislature of Virginia.

Q. How long have you been judge of the county courts of Fairfax and Alexandria counties? A. I suppose about eleven months.

Q. What is the jurisdiction of your courts? A. I have exclusive original jurisdiction in criminal matters, and I also act as a probate court and as a court of appellate jurisdiction to hear appeals from magistrates' decisions.

Q. And in civil cases? A. That is, in civil cases. A magistrate had jurisdiction in civil cases up to a certain amount, and in certain criminal matters he had jurisdiction.



Q. What was your position in May, 1894? A. I was attorney for the Commonwealth of Virginia, for Fairfax county.

Q. As such, what were your duties with reference to criminal matters, so far as trial was concerned? A. I occupied the same position, I imagine, as the crown attorney in England. I had the prosecution of all criminal proceedings in the courts.

Q. You prepared all the indictments? A. I prepared all indictments and prosecuted the cases.

Q. You laid complaints before the grand jury to get the result of its consideration? A. Yes, sir; by sending witnesses before the grand jury, and if a true bill were returned then my duty was to prosecute the case before the petit jury.

Q. Do you remember being instrumental, in May, 1894, in having a warrant issued, or in advising, in your official capacity as Commonwealth's attorney, the issue of a warrant against one Granby S. Howard? A. Yes, sir; I recall that. I do not remember the month, but I think that is about the time. The information upon which the warrant was issued was obtained on the oath of Mr. Joseph Specht, said oath having been made before Mr. J. R. Taylor. J. P. This warrant was really drawn under my supervision, by my own hand or under my directions.

Q. After that, so far as concerned, the efforts to execute the warrant, I suppose, you would not know personally? A. I do not remember what was done. That went into the hands of the sheriff, I imagine.

Q. Then the further proceedings on the warrant up to the time of the indictment would not be within your knowledge? A. No, sir.

Q. Then some time later, do you remember the matter coming up again in your official capacity as Commonwealth's attorney? A. I do.

Q. What was done then? A. As attorney for the Commonwealth I laid the case before the grand jury.

Q. You prepared the indictments? A. I prepared the indictments and sent the case to the grand jury, who returned true bills in both cases.

(Objected to and objection sustained.)

#### AN INTERSTATE REQUISITION.

Q. When the warrant was issued in May, 1894, were you instrumental in getting a requisition from the Governor of Virginia? A. I was.

Q. For what purpose? A. In order to get the body of Howard, and in order that he might be tried for this alleged offense.

Q. To whom was that requisition issued? A. I asked the Governor of Virginia to issue a requisition for Howard, who I had reason to believe was in New York city.

Q. Then your application was for a requisition from the Gov-

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ernor of Virginia upon the Governor of New York to apprehend Howard? A. Yes, sir; for whom a warrant had been issued in Fairfax county.

Q. You state that this warrant was issued upon oath. Was the information upon which the warrant was issued written or verbal?

A. I imagine that it was written, though I cannot distinctly recall. I imagine the information and warrant were together.

Q. These indictments, you say, have never been tried before a petit jury?

(Objected to and objection sustained.)

#### ANOTHER WASHINGTON WITNESS.

Friday, March 25, 1898.

Met pursuant to adjournment, at the office of Mr. Aaron Johns, No. 344 D street, N. W., Washington, D. C., at 3:15 o'clock p. m., Mr. Hogg, representing the defendants, being present, no representative appearing for the plaintiff.

William Walter Haislip, a witness on behalf of the defendants, having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

By Mr. Hogg:

Q. Where do you reside? A. 2033 Ninth street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Q. What business do you carry on? A. Grocery.

Q. How long have you been carrying on that business? A. About four years.

Q. What were you doing prior to that? A. I had charge of Mr. Specht's farm, Gunston Hall, Va.

Q. Did you know Granby S. Howard, the plaintiff in this case? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Where was he at the time you were at Gunston Hall? A. He lived at his residence, just below Gunston Hall. It was part of the same farm, only about half a mile from Gunston Hall.

Q. What was he doing there? A. I can hardly tell you what he was doing; he didn't seem to be doing much except working the old gentleman. I mean by that, getting all he could out of Mr. Joseph Specht.

Q. What was he actually doing there? Was he farming or what? A. He claimed he was carrying on a kind of a religion down there.

Q. Did you ever have any conversation with him? A. Yes, sir; I have heard him speak of it a great many times.

Q. Was he much at Gunston Hall? A. About every day.

Q. Who else was living at Gunston Hall at that time? A. Mrs. Specht and her husband and son and little girl. Mr. Specht was gone nearly four months at one time.

## THE DOCTOR TESTIFIES ABOUT HIMSELF BUT REFUSES TO ANSWER MANY OF THE QUESTIONS.

Philosophy of the Priest, Kings of India and the Doings of Their  
American Followers.

EVIDENCE OF THE SAGE OF ARU'S FOLLOWERS PLACED  
IN THE WITNESS BOX IN REBUTTAL.

(Special to the Star.)

Perth, Ont., April 28.—Interest in the big libel case was maintained up to the very last, the crowds inside the court room increasing as the hearing proceeded. The reading of the evidence taken by the commission in the United States was continued as follows:

Q. Were Dr. Howard and Mrs. Specht together much? A. Oh, yes; a great deal. I have seen them go into the house together, and I have seen them many times in the house.

Q. Did you notice what effect Howard had upon Mrs. Specht? A. Oh, yes, sir. I think he had a bad effect. She was so disagreeable that nobody could hardly live there in the family in peace. Mr. Specht could hardly live there at times.

Q. What did Mr. Specht do about that? A. He didn't say or do anything very much. He would go off, and when things got pacified he would come back.

### TRIED TO PACIFY HER.

Q. Did you observe that he tried to pacify Mrs. Specht? A. Oh, yes; I think he tried to pacify her.

Q. How did he act toward her? A. It seemed to me he did all for her that any mortal man could do.

Q. What do you say about Mr. Specht and his character? How have you found him? A. I have found Mr. Specht to be a very nice gentleman. I don't think there could be anything said against Mr. Specht so far as his character is concerned, not down there. He made a great many friends all through that neighborhood, and most all the people there felt very sorry for him.

Charles E. Flinder, a witness for the defendants, having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

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By Mr. Hogg:

Q. Where do you reside? A. At 407 Second street N. W., Washington.

Q. What is your occupation? A. At the present time I am an officer of the Bottlers' Protective Association of the District of Columbia.

Q. What was your occupation in 1894? A. I was a private detective.

Q. Attached to any bureau of detectives? A. W. Williams', an authorized detective agency, authorized by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia.

Q. You remember about May, 1894, receiving a warrant? A. Yes, sir.

Q. From whom did you receive the warrant? A. I think the warrant was sent by mail from Fairfax court-house to Mr. Specht at the National Hotel, and I received it from him.

Q. Did he come to you with the warrant? A. No, sir. I reported to him every day at the National Hotel.

Q. Then you went there and received the warrant from him? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Had he in the meantime told you that he would want you for some service of that kind? A. He had employed me to locate Howard.

Q. That was prior to your receiving the warrant? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What did you do in respect to locating Howard before you received the warrant? A. I went to Burlington, N. J., and made some inquiries there regarding this man, but he hadn't been there. It appeared he had been there, but he wasn't there at the time I went there. Then I sent two people down to Gunston Hall, to watch Howard's wife, thinking he would get some communication from her. Then she left there, and came to Washington, and resided for a time with a man named Sprague, on Sixth street S. E. Then I watched Sprague's house.

Q. Was this before or after the warrant was in your hands? A. After.

Q. Then all this you have stated about locating Howard was after the warrant was in your hands? A. Oh, yes, indeed.

Q. Before you go any further, do you remember the day you got the warrant in May? A. That is an impossibility.

Q. I have here a certified copy of the warrant, which you may look at. (After looking at the certified copy of the warrant.) A. According to the best of my recollection May 14, 1894, was the date it was issued, because it was about that time that I received it.

#### THE EXTRADITION PROCEEDINGS.

Q. What did you do after that? A. As I have said, Mrs. Howard came back to Washington, and stopped on Sixth street S. E., at the house of a man named Sprague. I watched Mrs. Howard, and one

day I saw her go into the postoffice on G street. I went in behind her. She went to the money-order department and took a blank, and I took one ready to fill it out, but really I was virtually, while pretending to fill out a blank, looking over her shoulder, and found where she was sending the money to, and the address and name, and everything. I immediately reported the fact to Mr. Specht, and on that information we got out extradition papers.

Q. She was sending money to some one; to whom? A. She was sending money to Howard.

Q. Was she putting Howard's name on the paper? A. No, I don't think so. I forget the name now that she put on the paper.

Q. Was it Wilson? A. I believe it was. That sounds very familiar to me. But I know it wasn't Howard. Then I immediately telegraphed to the chief of police in Montreal, and asked him to go to a certain number and investigate and see whether a certain party of a certain description was there. I had also sent him a circular. In the meantime I think I had got out a thousand circulars, and sent them broadcast throughout this country, Canada and Nova Scotia.

Q. Circulars to what effect? A. Giving a description of this man Howard, and to locate him, and we would have the necessary papers, and offering a reward of so much money for the information.

Q. How much money was it? A. That I can't tell you exactly, but I think it was \$500; I am pretty certain it was \$500. I telegraphed immediately to the chief of police of Montreal, calling his attention to the circular, and also told him what it was; and I received a telegram back from him, stating that the man was there in Montreal at such and such a number. Then we got out extradition papers.

Q. Before we come to the extradition papers, you went to Burlington yourself? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Why did you go to Burlington—to see if he was there? A. Mr. Specht had heard that Howard had been in Burlington, and thought he might go there again. I went there, and I called on some doctor, whose name I forget now, and who knew Howard very well, and he told me what sort of a man Howard was. I said I knew all about Howard's character here, but I wanted to locate him.

Q. You made all the efforts you could to locate Howard? A. Yes, sir.

Q. And the result of your efforts was, you say, that you located him at last in Montreal, Canada? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you report that to Mr. Specht? A. Yes, sir.

Q. What took place after that? A. He had a consultation with his attorneys, and at first they came to the conclusion to get out extradition papers, and they were got out, and placed in my hands, and I was supposed to go after this man and bring him back.

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## OUT OF HARM'S WAY.

But after further consultation they thought the matter would make so much notoriety, and Mr. Specht having a kindly feeling toward his wife, and not wanting to bring her into court to testify, they came to the conclusion that it would be better to let the man stay where he was, as he was out of harm's way in Canada, and couldn't do any harm here.

Q. The extradition papers were prepared and placed in your hands? A. There is no doubt about that.

Q. What did you do with those papers? A. I returned them to Mr. Specht, and I suppose he returned them to the proper authorities. That is what should have been done.

Q. Did you proceed to New York? A. No, I didn't go to New York after I got the requisition papers?

Q. But you did go to New York with the warrant? A. Oh, yes. We didn't regard any other papers except the warrant.

Q. You went to New York with the warrant for the purpose of apprehending Howard? A. Yes, sir; and found that he had skipped to Canada.

Q. Do you know how many days it was after you got the warrant when you went to New York? A. I went right away; I am pretty certain I did. For instance, if I got the warrant to-day I certainly went to New York to-day.

Q. Was it after you had gone to New York that you went to Burlington? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then it was after you had made these efforts to locate Howard that a requisition of the Governor of Virginia was placed in your hands? A. Oh, yes.

Q. A requisition upon the Governor of New York? A. The requisition was upon the Governor of New York, but you see when I got to New York and found he had gone to Canada, then of course that ended the usefulness of that requisition.

Q. Then you had the warrant as well as the requisition when you went to New York? A. No. The warrant was only to apprehend him. I didn't want to lose any time. My object was to have Howard apprehended and hold him until I could get a requisition. But it is not necessary to wait for requisition papers. You can have a man apprehended and held so many days.

Q. When did you get the requisition; when you came back here? A. When I came back.

Q. What did you do with the requisition of the Governor of Virginia? A. I returned it to Mr. Specht.

Saturday, March 26, 1898.

Met pursuant to adjournment, at the business house of Browning & Middleton, 608 Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, D. C., at 4:30 o'clock p. m., Mr. Hogg appearing on behalf of the defendants, no representative appearing on behalf of the plaintiff.

Horatio Browning, a witness called on behalf of the defendants, having been duly sworn, testified as follows:



**Mr. W. D. Hogg, Q. C., Counsel for Defendant.**

By Mr. Hogg:

Q. You live in Washington, Mr. Browning? A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you lived there? A. Nearly fifty years.

Q. What business do you carry on? A. I have been in the grocery business since 1850.

Q. Have you also been connected with any financial concerns?

A. I have been connected with the Central National Bank, as a director, for twenty years.

Q. Did you know Dr. G. S. Howard, the plaintiff in this action? A. Yes, sir.

Q. When did you know him? A. In 1892.

Q. Did he tell you anything about his religious views? A. Not until the latter part of our acquaintance. Perhaps it was six months before he left before he told me anything in that regard.

Q. Did he tell you what he was proposing to do here? A. Yes, sir. He said he was introducing here a grand school for the pur-

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pose of teaching occult sciences and other things that would have a very wonderful influence upon the people, and so on; that they were coming to his assistance with money and other aid in the enterprise, and that he expected to make it a grand success.

#### WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM.

Q. Did he mention who was coming to his aid with money? A. No, sir; not that I remember. I am not sure about that, however.

Q. Did you ascertain who was supplying him with money? A. I learned either from him or from some other source, I am not sure which, that Mrs. Specht was doing more for him than anybody else.

Q. How does Mr. Joseph Specht stand in the community? A. Mr. Specht stands as high as any man in the State of Virginia, in my opinion. I have been quite well acquainted with Mr. Specht since he introduced himself to me. I have done business with him. At one time I was assignee of the National Hotel, and as such was running it for a while, and Mr. Specht was stopping there and I took care of him as a guest. I do not think I exaggerate when I say that I found him one of the highest-toned men I ever met.

Q. Howard was a man who gave you a good opinion of him? A. Oh! I was carried away with him. He was a man liable to attract attention, being an extraordinary well-preserved man for his age—he was older than I am, but he didn't look it. He was a man of powerful frame, and a man of great conversational powers.

Q. What kind of a disposition had he? A. I thought he was a man of kindly disposition; that was my impression.

Q. Insinuating in his style? A. Yes, sir.

Monday, March 28, 1898.

Mr. Commissioner Thornton and his clerk met at the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Virginia, in the Capitol building in Richmond, Va., at 10 o'clock a. m., this date, for the purpose of taking further testimony under this commission, no representative of either the plaintiff or of the defendants appearing.

Joseph Lawless, a witness on behalf of the defendants, having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

By the Commissioner:

Q. Please state your official position, Mr. Lawless? A. I am Secretary of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Q. As Secretary of the Commonwealth, have you in your custody the warrants or requisition papers issued by the Governor of Virginia on the Governors of other States? A. Under the law I am required, as Secretary of the Commonwealth, to keep on file in my department all of the executive papers, and have in fact the original application made by the Commonwealth's Attorney for the county of Fairfax, for a requisition on the Governor of the State of New York, for Granby Staunton Howard, alias Dr. G. S. Howard, charged

in said county of Fairfax with obtaining money under false pretenses, which requisition was issued on the 16th day of May, 1894. I hold the original papers in my hand. The application is made by the Commonwealth's Attorney of Fairfax county, on the strength of a warrant sworn out by Joseph Specht, of the county of Fairfax, on the 14th day of May, 1894, before John R. Taylor, a justice of the peace of said county.

### THE PAPERS ALL REGULAR.

The warrant is duly signed by the said John R. Taylor, justice of the peace, and attested before F. W. Richardson, clerk of the county court, of the county of Fairfax, under the seal of said county court.

Q. Mr. Lawless, I now hand you what purports to be a certified copy, over your own signature, as Secretary of the Commonwealth of Virginia, of the warrant, to which you have just referred, sworn out by Joseph Specht, of said county of Fairfax, before John R. Taylor, a justice of the peace. Do you recognize your signature, and is that in fact a certified copy of said warrant? A. I have examined the signature affixed to said certified copy which you have just handed me, as well as the copy itself, and do recognize my signature, and do say that it is a correct copy of the original, to which I have alluded above.

Q. What is the rule of your department as to warrants and requisitions being returned to the department to be filed, and do these documents come within the general rule? A. The documents contain the original signatures of the proper officers required under the law to make application for requisition papers. A duplicate of this warrant accompanied the requisition papers on the Governor of the State of New York, which are given to Mr. Joseph Specht for execution. Those papers have never been returned to this department, and are not required under the law to be so returned.

A copy of said application and accompanying papers, duly certified by the commissioner taking these depositions, is filed herewith.

This completed the evidence taken by the commission, the return of the commission including the following declaration:

The United States of America, District of Columbia, city of Washington, in the High Court of Justice. Granby S. Howard, plaintiff, vs. Graham & Co., defendants.

I, R. E. Thornton, of Fairfax, in the State of Virginia, one of the United States of America, counsellor-at-law, do make oath and say:

1. That in execution of the commission directed to me in this case, I have taken the depositions of witnesses whose names, residences and additions are as follows: Joseph Specht, gentleman, of Gunston Hall, Va.; Rev. Joseph A. Specht, of the city of Washington, D. C., clerk in holy orders; Aurelius Allan, farmer; William S. Freeman, farmer; Mary Freeman, his wife; T. F. Chapman, farmer, all of Gunston, Fairfax county, Va.; John Sheppard, of Accotink, in the county of Fairfax, Va., fisherman; Henry Strauss, merchant; Cap-

tain James F. Webster, chief of police; Banner T. Young, police officer; all of Alexandria, in the county of Alexandria, Va.; Hon. James M. Love, judge of the county court of the county of Fairfax, Va.; William Walter Haislip, grocer; Charles E. Fliner, detective, and Horatio Browning, grocer, all of Washington, D. C.; and of Hon. Joseph T. Lawless, Secretary of the Commonwealth, of Richmond, Va.

2. That before proceeding with the execution of the said commission, I attended before the Hon. Charles C. Cole, one of the associate justices of the supreme court of the District of Columbia, who administered to me the oath required under this commission, which oath is hereto attached.

3. That before proceeding with the execution of the said commission, I appointed Mr. Aaron Johns, of the city of Washington, D. C., my clerk, and administered to him the oath prescribed by this commission.

4. That in the execution of the said commission I duly administered the proper oath to each and every one of the witnesses above named, which oath was so administered before the taking of the depositions of the said witnesses.

5. That the said depositions were taken down in shorthand by the said Aaron Johns, which shorthand was duly and properly extended by him, and that the taking down of the said testimony and the extension thereof in typewriting were truly and correctly done.

6. That I identify the viva voce questions and evidence taken as those annexed by me to the commission herein, and as being those which were propounded and given under the said commission.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this first day of April, A. D. 1898.

E. F. BINGHAM,  
Chief Justice Superior Court, D. C., U. S. A.

The reading of the commission over, or rather extracts from it, Mr. Osler suggested that the plaintiff should have the right to have any that had been omitted read. Mr. Osler went on to explain that the plaintiff in the case, Howard, had been examined for discovery, and some of the evidence then obtained from the plaintiff was interesting by reason of what the plaintiff had to say for himself, and what he refused to say. Mr. Osler proceeded to read extracts from the examination, which in full read as follows:

## HOWARD'S OWN STORY.



**The Plaintiff, Dr. G. S. Howard, the Sage of Aru and Grand Sponsor of the Occidental Order of the Sat-Bai-Goocha.**

In the High Court of Justice.—Between Granby S. Howard, plaintiff, and Graham & Co., defendants.

Examination of Granby S. Howard, the plaintiff, herein, taken before me this 21st day of January, 1898, pursuant to my appointment, dated the 17th day of January, 1898.

(Signed)

W. L. SCOTT,  
Master at Ottawa.

Mr. T. K. Allen, for plaintiff; Mr. W. D. Hogg, Q. C., and Mr. F. A. Magee, for defendants.

To Mr. Hogg:

Q. You are the plaintiff in this action? A. I am.

Q. You live at Carleton Place? A. Yes.

Q. How long have you lived there? A. Since the month of October, 1895 or 1896.

Q. That would be less than a year and a half? A. I have been there over two years—the month of October, 1895.

Q. Where did you come from to Carleton Place? A. I came from Kemptville.

Q. How long have you lived in Kemptville? A. From August, 1894, to that time in 1895.

Q. And then you went to Carleton Place? A. Yes.

Q. Where were you prior to August, 1894? A. I was in Montreal from the 24th of May, 1894, until I went to Kemptville.

Q. What was your business in these places? A. In Kemptville I was part of the time selling agricultural implements. I assisted another man.

Q. At Carleton Place what business were you engaged in? A. The same as I am now; manufacturing drugs, medicines, etc.

Q. Are you a medical man? A. Yes.

Q. Where did you get your degree? A. I have two or three degrees; some in the United States and some at home.

Q. Where is your home? A. In England. I have no degree from England, but I have degrees from the United States.

Q. What college? The Wisconsin Medical College.

Q. Any other? A. No.

Q. Did you practice the profession of medicines? A. Yes, I have.

Q. Where? A. In Washington and other places.

Q. As a general medical practitioner? A. Yes; specialist more particularly.

Q. What was the special practice that you followed? A. Nervous diseases and nose and throat.

Q. When did you come to the United States from England? A. In 1884, I think it was.

Q. Did you come to the United States from England? A. No, sir.

#### AN ACCIDENT AT QUEBEC.

Q. Where did you come from when you came to the United States? A. I was traveling with my wife for a number of years previous to that, for her health; over the world. We have not been located for many years. I just crossed over through the United States on my way to England, and met with an accident in Quebec, and came back to Montreal, and was detained there in 1886 and went into business there.

Q. Where was your place of residence in England? A. We lived in the North of England, in the county of Northumberland.

Q. Had you any property there? A. No.

Q. Never had any property there? A. Our people had.

Q. Much property? A. Some little.

Q. What kind of property? A. Some landed property.

Q. You yourself had no property there? A. No.

Q. What family do you belong to of the Howards in the North of England?

(Objected to.)

(Master rules that it is a proper question.)

(Witness refuses to answer on advice of counsel.)

Q. When did you come to Fairfax county, Va.? A. I cannot tell

you the day of the month. It was some time, I think, in June or July, 1891.

Q. Had you been in India prior to that? A. Yes.

Q. How long were you in India? A. I cannot say exactly.

Q. Prior to your coming to Fairfax? A. I was in Montreal when I went to Fairfax.

Q. When was it you were in India? A. After the mutiny and through that time.

Q. How long were you in India?

(Witness refuses to answer.)

Q. While you were in India did you associate yourself with a religious order of people called Brahmins?

(Witness refuses to answer.)

Q. You know there is a religious teaching called Brahminism? A. I do.

Q. Did you become one of the disciples or apostles of that religion?

(Witness refuses to answer.)

Q. When you went to Fairfax, Va., in 1891, did you promulgate or endeavor to promulgate the teachings of Brahminism?

A. I would hardly think it could be put in that way. There was organized in St. Louis, in May, 1891, a society with that in view, and I knew and know of the doctrines, and an arrangement was made to found an institution of this association at Fairfax, and it was arranged that I should take charge of this institution.

Q. As what? A. As a home for the people of this association, where, when they became old, they might come and live, and where they might study the philosophy of the East, and the idea was to get a charter and form an institution to cover all the different fields of philosophy.

Q. What were you to be? A. I was to be at the head.

Q. What was your title as head of it? A. No title at all. It was not organized into a society having a legal standing in the country.

Q. Did it ever become organized? A. No; it was not chartered.

Q. It was not organized in that sense? A. No; I mean to get a Congressional charter.

Q. Was this the first time that you had taken up the question of the philosophy of the East? A. No, sir.

Q. You had been studying this before? A. Yes.

Q. And by the "East" you mean amongst other countries, India? A. Yes.

Q. Where you had imbibed some of this philosophy, I suppose? A. Yes.

Q. This was at St. Louis? The organization was made there.

Q. How did you become acquainted with that organization?

A. The organization was formed while I was at St. Louis.

Q. Was it through your instrumentality it was formed? A. Yes; in part. I could hardly claim to be the father of it in that way.

Q. You were instrumental in promoting it? A. I had nothing to do with the promotion of it. I went to Jefferson City and assisted a friend who was to deliver a lecture on Oriental philosophy, and I delivered the lecture for him, and I met some people from St. Louis, and was asked to come there and be a guest at their house to see what could be done, but the things going on in St. Louis have been going on a number of years, and the matter was put in that shape.

Q. When you met these people at St. Louis did you make any representations as to your standing among the philanthropists? A. No, sir; I never had anything to do with them.

Q. Did you make any representations as to your being the head of a religious order, having its headquarters and council in India?

A. I made representations of nothing of the kind further than in the course of conversations it was natural to refer to me as being the one that was at the head of it.

Q. Did you tell them you were the head of a religious order in India, or which had its headquarters in India? A. I cannot remember having made that statement.

Q. What was the object of that order for the dissimulation of Brahmin-Indian philosophy? A. The object of it was to make men live better.

Q. That the Brahmin-Indian philosophy would make men live better? A. Yes.

Q. The further object was that that was to be substituted for the Christian religion? A. No, sir.

Q. But the object was to establish the Brahmin-Indian philosophy that would be substituted amongst the people, who took it up for Christianity? A. I would not understand it in that way.

#### PRIEST KINGS OF INDIA.

Q. What do you understand by it? A. I understand that the religion that was spoken of there was as the philosophy of the priest kings of India. They were an old tribunal people of the East, and their religion taught them to venerate the one God and to live in the life that He had launched upon the earth, and they have their philosophies in connection with these things, and they believe in these things, and they believe in the Christ, and how there could be any controversy I do not know.

Q. You did not make these statements, that it was to be a substitute for Christianity? A. Certainly not. A man in talking of these things does not put himself on guard, and I do not know how far remarks may have been made that could be so used; but this much I would say, that in all probability the man who would live the life as taught by these people—the fathers of the race—would find no difficulty in being Christians, nor would they need to follow any philosophy.

Q. When you introduced yourself in the way that you have stated,



did you then state to these people that your title in India was "The Sage of Aru?" A. No, sir. I will explain. There is in one branch of Oriental masonry many degrees, and the head of each degree has a certain name given to him, and there is a degree in which the Sage of Aru is the master of that Chapter.

Q. You occupy that position? A. I did.

Q. You were entitled to be called "The Sage of Aru?" A. I was.

Q. And you told your friends there? A. No, sir. The party who is bringing this material wrote from St. Louis to me, through a friend. I never had seen them nor did not know anything of them at all. The letter came, and in answering that letter I simply signed it "The Sage of Aru," which was right and proper.

Q. Did you make appear that you had been instructed by the Council in India to come to the United States and establish a college there? A. I do not think that has anything to do with it. That is a matter of my private life; I did not make any representations of that kind.

Q. A college where the philosophy and other learning of the order might be taught? A. The management of that institution is not mine to convey to anybody; the philosophy is not mine to impart to anybody, except as I got it. I simply say that for the purpose of gaining money, or for the purpose of acquiring influence, I never made a representation of that kind.

Q. Were you instructed by your Council in India to come to the United States and open a college where the philosophy and learning might be taught? A. As far as my memory serves me, nothing of that kind came up. I do not remember having heard anything of that.

Q. While you were there in St. Louis and in the United States with your colleagues of this philosophy, did you lead them to believe, or was it a matter that you conveyed to any one that you were to be the next spirit incarnate or the leader of the new dispensation? A. I never did that.

Q. You deny that absolutely? A. Certainly. I believe just exactly this, that every man who has the breath of life in him and the spirit of God, can become associated as Jesus tells his people to be, and we do not claim any new philosophy but that.

Q. As I understand you, went to Fairfax in June or July, 1891; where did you go to from Fairfax? A. Montreal.

Q. In Montreal you had been for some years carrying on the business of manufacturing medicines? A. Yes.

Q. What did you go to Fairfax for? A. On a written invitation of Mr. Joseph Specht, with a view to purchasing property for the institution.

Q. You went there and met him? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Then you made not only the acquaintance of Mr. Specht, but his family? A. I met his family in St. Louis in the month of May, 1891.

Q. Had you gone back to Montreal in the meantime? A. Yes.

Q. After you had been in St. Louis? A. I went to Jefferson City and we returned to St. Louis at the request of the Specht's, and went to their house as their guest. Then after we got through with the business in St. Louis, I returned to my home in Montreal to go on in my business, not knowing whether anything was going to come of this matter, and the next thing was a letter from the Specht's to meet them in Virginia to look after this property that they were talking of buying at Gunston.

Q. You were a guest at their house? A. Yes, sir.

Q. When you went back in July or August? June or July.

#### DOWN IN OLD VIRGINNY.

Q. When you went back to St. Louis, you were their guest at Gunston? A. They had just bought the property.

Q. You were there? A. I think a day.

Q. Was the family there? A. No, only Mr. Specht and his wife. One of the sons was living with me in Montreal at the time.

Q. Which was? A. Joseph Specht.

Q. Is his name Joseph. A. Joseph A.

Q. Was he with you at Fairfax? A. Not till afterwards.

Q. In June or July you went down there to Fairfax and you met Mr. and Mrs. Specht? A. Yes.

Q. What did you do? A. We looked over the situation and saw about the land, etc., that they were purchasing, and I think there was nothing done and I came home. The arrangements to purchase the property were made then or later; I think later.

Q. When did you go back to Fairfax? A. I think the latter part of August I went down.

Q. From that out where did you reside? A. I went down to Virginia and went over to meet Mr. Joseph Specht.

Q. You went back in August? A. I think so.

Q. And from that time out, until you left again, where did you reside? A. I resided at Gunston. I think it was about the first of September I went down.

Q. Did you remain there or reside there until you left again in 1894? A. Yes, we resided there. The family moved down late in the autumn that we got our buildings in shape that we erected in Gunston.

Q. What is Gunston—a village? A. It is an estate that was owned by the Masons. It was named by a Mason who was the owner of it. I think they came from Gunston, England.

Q. You erected some buildings there? A. Yes, sir; on the estate that had been divided up. It had been sold in parcels and I made arrangements to buy one of them.

Q. And upon that parcel you built the buildings you speak of? A. Yes.

Q. What became of Gunston Hall? A. That was bought by the Spechts.

Q. And occupied as a residence? A. Yes.

Q. Did Mr. Joseph Specht leave St. Louis at that time? A. He used to be carrying on business in St. Louis and in the fall of 1891 his property burnt out in St. Louis, and then he went out of business and moved to Virginia some time in the following year—1892.

Q. But in the meantime, before he gave up business, his wife and children were living at Gunston Hall? A. They were living at St. Louis. They lived at Gunston Hall permanently in the summer of 1892. I remember they brought their furniture down on the boat.

Q. In 1894 it was a family residence? A. Yes.

Q. Did Joseph Specht from that time out live at Gunston Hall? A. Most of the time. Some time he would have to go away on business.

Q. What did his family consist of? A. There was himself and his wife, and their family consists of two sons and two daughters. One of the daughters and the two sons were then unmarried, and part of the time they were there and part of the time they were not there. Their relationship with their father had been strained for a number of years. Joseph and his father used to quarrel. He came to Montreal to avoid the wrath of his father and they got him out of the house and got him a ticket and sent him to Montreal.

Q. The family consisted of two sons and two daughters? A. Yes; but they were not all living there.

Q. There was one daughter married? A. Yes, and lived in St. Louis.

Q. And the other daughter? A. Is still with her father. She is about fourteen.

Q. There was another son, did you know him? A. Yes.

Q. What was his name? A. Edward.

Q. What did you do in Virginia or Fairfax during the time you lived there? A. I was doing anything that came to hand. I carried on the place and tried to build it up, and I practiced my profession in Washington city.

Q. How far is this place from Washington? A. About eighteen miles.

Q. You were a good deal in Washington and sometimes in Gunston Hall? A. Yes. I went to Washington two or three times a week, and we had a small piece of ground that we cultivated, and we got a larger piece on lease and we were carrying that on.

Q. You were living close to Gunston Hall and you were intimate with the family of Spechts? A. Yes; neighborly: Under the conditions we were perhaps more intimate as we were the only associates living there.

Q. Going back to the question of your religious teaching—were the Spechts followers of your views—did they belong to the order?

## MRS. SPECHT A MEMBER.

A. Mrs. Specht was a member, the husband was not.

Q. Was she a devoted member of the theory and teaching? A. I would not say that she was devoted. She was not as devoted at that time as she was when her trouble came between her and her husband.

Q. Did you teach her the philosophy? A. Yes, the same as I would to anybody else.

Q. You did explain and teach the philosophy of your order to her? A. Yes.

Q. Was she a person who was receptive of that kind of teaching? A. Not more so than others.

Q. Was she enthusiastic and took an interest? A. Certainly.

Q. In the doctrines which you and she believed in? A. Yes.

Q. What did the husband say about this? A. He was as much interested as anybody, apparently.

Q. He did not, as you say, become a member of the order? A. No, sir. It requires a different kind of life than what the man lived.

Q. Then in connection with that does the member require to take any oaths or pledges or make declarations? A. No, nothing more than to take the pledge as in any other matter. A word of honor would be sufficient.

Q. There are no oaths? A. No. There are forms of ceremonies of initiation. It is no more complicated than it would be in an ordinary temperance society, simply a statement of what your faith is.

Q. In joining the order, Mrs. Specht, I suppose, made her statements, or the statements were made to her to which she agreed to abide by? A. There is no pledge of that kind.

Q. What is there? A. She did not have any relationship in connection with this order business. She had no position that was different from anybody else. There was a meeting held in their house in St. Louis. I was present at that meeting. There was a communion at which we who were desirous of living the life that we thought was advisable. There was no special arrangement for her or anybody else.

Q. She was one of them? A. Yes.

Q. This was prior to their going to Gunston Hall to live. A. Yes.

Q. It was at her house that the meeting took place? A. Yes. They invited others to come and be present.

Q. Were they all women? A. They were all women that were present at that time.

Q. There were men who belonged to it? A. Yes. There were not so many women as men, but the men had nothing to do with that part of the business.

Q. Was that the time at which you would say she became converted to the teachings of the order? A. There was no change; no conversion. She simply agreed with the others to live a life of

absolute purity and truth; to follow the precepts of truth and righteousness in all ways, and that is all the pledge there is about it.

Q. What was the effect on Mrs. Specht so far as your observations went. Did she follow out the doctrines? A. Yes, as all people do in Christianity or any other teachings. They sometimes feel very enthusiastic and sometimes they doubt.

Q. What was Mrs. Specht's position about that. Was she devoted? A. Yes, fairly so. She made an effort to live the life and she lived it more and more; she became more and more devoted to it.

Q. From that time out, in the autumn of 1891, or beginning of 1892, when they came to Gunston Hall to live, in regard to the teachings of your order; you followed that up, too? A. Yes. There was no church near by, and each Sunday we would have a little meeting among ourselves. Yes; there was no church near by.

Q. At Gunston? A. Yes.

Q. Who furnished the money to build those buildings and do that work? A. Mrs. Joseph Specht.

Q. How much did she furnish? A. Five thousand dollars.

Q. Anything else? A. There were times when she gave us different things.

Q. What were some of the things she gave? A. For instance, around their place they had a great deal of fruit and different things that we did not have, and that was sent down when she felt like sending it.

Q. Did she hand over any jewels? A. She had some jewels that she had been trying for a number of years to dispose of.

Q. Earrings? A. A brooch and two earrings.

Q. What did she do with them? A. She had given them to different parties to sell and she could not dispose of them.

Q. Did she give them to you. A. She gave them to me to sell for the work.

Q. Did you sell them? A. Yes.

Q. How much did you get for them. A. Between four and five hundred dollars.

Q. Was that all the money you got in connection with this work from her?

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## THE PLAINTIFF'S POSITION IN THE MYSTERIOUS ORDER.

Only One of the Viasya Caste Could Relieve Him of His Financial Work.

HOWARD'S VICTIMS, PLACED IN THE BOX AS WITNESSES, DID NOT KNOW THERE WAS AN ORDER.

Perth, April 28.—A feature of the evidence in the big libel suit was the amount of ignorance displayed by Howard's friends in his mysterious order. Some interesting revelations regarding the new Philosophy of the Priest Kings of India were expected when Mrs. Specht, Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Morrey were placed in the box, but these witnesses evinced the greatest care to prevent any information regarding the order to be revealed. They identified some exhibits, however, while abundantly demonstrated the species of mummery Howard indulged in.

The reading of the evidence of Howard, the plaintiff, taken in the examination for discovery, continued as follows:

### HOWARD'S REGULAR STIPEND.

A. No. There was a regular stipend of \$25 a month that was given.

Q. That she gave? A. Yes.

Q. What was done with the \$5,000? A. The \$5,000 was expended in the founding of the work as far as that went, and in keeping the things together and living until we left Virginia.

Q. You got the \$5,000, and you expended it? A. Yes, certainly.

Q. You expended it in living and gettings things for your home there? A. Yes. There were others living with us.

Q. What do you mean by others? A. The members of the order.

Q. Many of them? A. Sometimes there would be two or three, mostly always somebody there.

Q. And the money was devoted in part to their keep? A. Yes, and for getting property around that would be useful in the future for the institution.

Q. How long was it after your acquaintance with Mrs. Specht that this \$5,000 was paid? A. We became acquainted in May, I think, and I returned to Montreal and the matter was written about

and talked about, and then they sent for me to come down to Virginia to see them on the matter, and all this time, of course, it was supposed that her \$11,000 and other money would come in, and things were talked of in that way.

Q. About what time was it then that the money was actually handed over? A. In August I think there was \$1,000, and in September I think the balance was given.

Q. Was it sent to Montreal? A. No.

Q. It was paid over when you got there? A. It was given me in drafts on St. Louis.

Q. After you got there? A. Yes, but the agreement to give it was made when I was in Montreal.

Q. Was it a condition precedent to your going there that you were to get this? A. Certainly. There was no other inducement to take me there. I broke up my home and went down there, knowing I would have to depend on my exertions to make a living. Mr. and Mrs. Specht carried it on

Q. The letters were in correspondence with whom? A. With Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Specht.

Q. How long did you live in Virginia after that? A. From 1891 to 1894.

Q. And you left in May, 1894? A. Yes.

Q. About what date? A. On the 11th of May, 1894.

Q. Where did you go? A. Mr. Specht, Mrs. Specht, Mrs. Howard and myself went to Washington city on the 11th of May.

Q. Where did you go from there? A. To New York.

Q. And then? A. To New Jersey.

Q. And then? A. To Montreal.

Q. When did you arrive in Montreal? A. The night of the 24th of May.

Q. Were you alone? A. I was alone. My wife was in Washington.

Q. When did you leave Washington? A. On the night of the 12th of May—Saturday night.

Q. When did you arrive in New York? A. The next morning.

Q. When did you leave New York? A. I was backward and forward from New York to Jersey until the 22nd or 23rd—the afternoon on the 23rd I left.

Q. At the time you left Fairfax and Washington what were your relations with the Specht family? A. The same as before.

Q. When you left Washington? A. The only trouble I knew of was with Specht. The position was this: Mrs. Specht owned Gunston Hall, and Joseph Specht wanted to get possession of it, and wanted to get the title of it without giving her any consideration, and she would not do it as she wanted an income from it on which to live, and he would not give it, so she would not give up the title. He issued a writ of lunacy and then subpoenaed me as a witness, and her lawyer came to me and told me that the best thing for her, so as to give them time to delay the hearing, was to get out of the



jurisdiction of the court, so that they could not serve me with the subpoena, and at his request I did so.

Q. What did you go to Washington for? A. They were in the habit of going up and down the same as we were.

Q. You were just going up and you met accidentally? A. We had to go on the same boat.

Q. There was no preconcerted arrangement about going up? A. Not that I know of. Probably we had spoken of it, but each of us had his own business to attend to.

Q. These discussions and this trouble took place in Washington, and what side did you take? A. I had nothing to do with it.

Q. How did you know all about it—that one wanted the title, etc.? A. That is subsequent knowledge.

Q. You did not know at the time? A. No, sir.

Q. You all discussed this together? A. No, sir. He locked his wife in a room in the hotel while he sent out to get the papers made out to get himself made trustee. I did not know anything about it at that time. The girl at the hotel went to inquire why she did not come down, and she said she was locked in, and the girl opened the door and she came out and went to my wife's room and told me the circumstances and I got a lawyer to take care of her interests, and when Mr. Specht came down with his papers to take her in charge as a lunatic, she was not there—her lawyer had taken her away.

Q. You left, too, the same day? A. Yes, the same night.

Q. You left your wife in Washington? A. Yes.

Q. What did Specht say? A. I do not know, sir; I did not see him.

Q. Did he not say anything about issuing a warrant against you? A. Never heard of it.

#### WHY HE WENT TO MONTREAL.

Q. You did not know he had issued a warrant? A. No, sir; I do not know yet that he has.

Q. That was on the night of the 12th of May? A. Yes. We came to Washington on the 11th and on the 12th I left. The 13th I was in New York and remained until the 23rd.

Q. You left for the simple purpose of being away so that you could not be called as a witness? A. Yes. The lawyer told me it would be necessary for me to do that.

Q. And you remained away ever since? A. Yes. I had nothing to go back for. There was nothing there for me to do, and I went right back to Montreal and went into business.

Q. You went into business in Canada? A. Yes, sir. I had broken that business up to go there at their request, and I came back here and took up my lines where I laid them down.

Q. You did not know anything about the warrant being issued? A. I did not know and do not know yet.

Q. You were informed after you got to Montreal that there was

a warrant issued. A. I do not think so. I did not have any knowledge of it.

Q. I think you said so in an interview to a newspaper man? A. I said I was there if he had anything to do; he threatened me.

Q. Who? A. Specht.

Q. When did he do that? A. He kept on doing it for a long time.

Q. When did he commence to do that? A. After I got to Canada.

Q. You did not know anything about it before that? A. No.

Q. You did not know there was a warrant issued against you on the 13th? A. No, I did not.

Q. You did not know there was another issued on the 14th? A. No; do not know it yet.

Q. Did you know that the Governor of Virginia sent up word to the Governor of New York to look after you? A. Never heard of it until this minute.

Q. You did not know that on the 13th there was a warrant in the hands of the constable to arrest you? A. No, certainly not.

Q. Did you know it was going to happen? A. No.

Q. Mr. Specht did not tell you anything about that. A. No. I never saw Mr. Specht after he had the row with his wife.

Q. You did not know anything with reference to what took place between the authorities of the two countries with reference to you? A. No, and I do not yet.

#### HOWARD HAD AN ALIAS.

Q. There was a time in Montreal when you were known as Wilson? A. My lawyer in Washington said to me: "So that we may communicate with each other and have no trouble you had better take the name of Wilson."

Q. Who was your lawyer? A. Sprague, of Washington.

Q. He said you had better take the name of Wilson? A. Yes.

Q. And you went under the name of Wilson how long? A. Not very long, because half the people of Montreal knew me. I cannot tell how long.

Q. During the time you were in the United States after the 12th, you went by the name of Wilson until you reached Montreal? A. No, but my letters were directed to Wilson.

Q. Then when you got to Montreal, of course, it wasn't necessary to have an assumed name? A. Only to get my mail.

Q. And that dropped out after a time? A. Certainly.

Q. You remained in Montreal a short time after you got there? A. Yes, a couple of months.

Q. You were working? A. I did not do anything in business that time.

Q. Were you not in communication with the people in Washington, your lawyer, and others, up to that time? A. Yes.

Q. To see how things were going? A. Yes.

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Q. You were informed that a warrant was issued? A. No.

Q. You were informed by your lawyers there was? A. I do not think so.

(Objected to.)

Q. You did not know anything about it that time? A. I do not remember.

Q. In the many communications you had both by letter and telegram with your lawyer, you must have heard something about the warrant? A. I received a forged telegram.

Q. Was it a fact that you did not know anything about a warrant when you were in Montreal for these two months? A. I do not know that that ever came to my knowledge in any way. I know there has been talk about it.

Q. When you were in Montreal you knew about the article you complain of now? A. I did not see that.

Q. Why didn't you bring your action sooner? A. I did not know the article was there to be complained of.

#### WHY THIS DELAY.

Q. Why did you delay the action so long; it is three and a half years before you commenced your action? A. I did not see the article until this year, not to my knowledge.

Q. How did you happen to see it so long after? A. In clearing out a room where there was a number of papers that Star was found. There was a number of papers there.

Q. And you saw the article? A. Yes.

Q. Did you feel that you were suffering under it at that time? A. A man would naturally suffer anyway.

Q. You felt that you were suffering after three and a half years from an article written in June, 1894? A. I know of that in a way, because shortly after that, I think it was, one of our young people said that somebody had brought a Star to their house wrapped around a parcel, and they wanted to know if that was the same man.

Q. When you left Washington on the night of the 12th of May, 1894, you left Mrs. Specht and your wife there? A. No, they were both away at the lawyer's house.

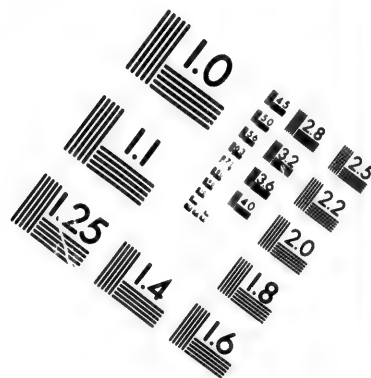
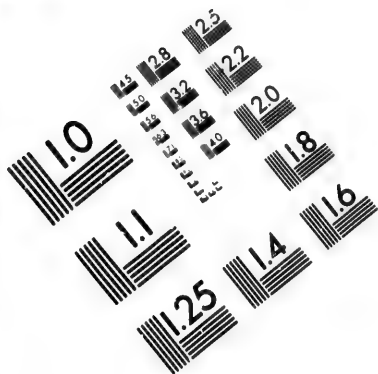
Q. And you went off without seeing them? A. No, I saw them the last thing.

Q. Did you leave them at the lawyer's? A. Yes, I left my wife there. They were on visiting terms, and we were up there taking tea when he told me the subpoena was out.

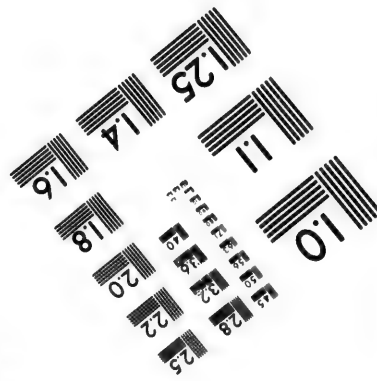
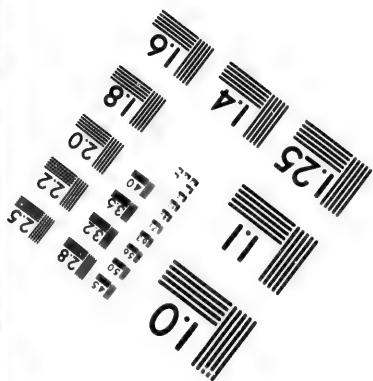
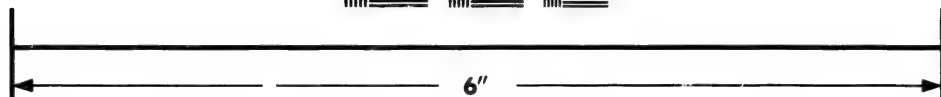
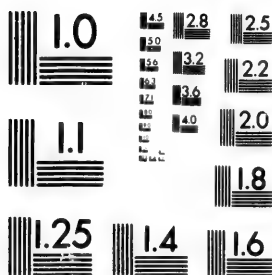
Q. What did Mrs. Specht do? A. The case was brought up in court and eventually thrown out, and she went back to Gunston Hall. I am speaking from hearsay.

Q. Do you know where she lives now? A. At Carleton Place.





# IMAGE EVALUATION TEST TARGET (MT-3)



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Q. How long? A. For over a year.

Q. Living at Carleton Place? A. She boards at the hotel and has rooms at our place.

Q. How long has she been there with you? A. Since June or July a year ago.

Q. It will be two years in June since she came there? A. Yes.

Q. How does she get the means to live? A. By the lawsuit she got a consideration of \$1,800 a year for life, secured by bonds or by stocks in exchange for Gunston Hall, for her title to Gunston Hall.

Q. From whom? A. From her husband.

Q. And she went to live in Carleton Place? A. She went to different places, and she found she had no place to live, and she telegraphed to my wife if she could come and live with her, and she came, and there she remains.

Q. Did you know anything about the further proceedings that were taken after you left Washington against you? A. I know of no proceedings against me.

Q. Did you know that indictments had been laid against you in Fairfax county? A. The grand jury had found an indictment.

Q. True bills against you on indictments? A. I do not know. I have nothing but a telegram that an indictment had been found.

Q. You did not know that until you were telegraphed? A. No; certainly not. It did not occur until the 5th of August.

Q. There seems to have been some bad feeling existing between you and Joseph Specht? A. Nothing more than the fact that I had baffled him in putting his wife in the asylum.

Q. That was all? A. As far as I know.

Q. There was no feeling of that kind prior to that? A. No, sir.

Q. Did you know anything about his efforts to get Gunston Hall prior to your coming to Washington on the 11th of May, 1894? A. I do not think I did, I do not think it came up in that way. The only thing I know of before that that would bear upon the subject was he and I were fishing one day and he said to me that his wife was very erratic, she wanted to get an income or something of that kind, and he didn't know what to do.

Q. How long was that before you went to Washington? A. I think it was in the autumn previous; I do not know.

Q. Was that talked over between you and Mrs. Specht at all after that; did she come to you with her trouble? A. No; I do not think so, not to me; she may have talked to my wife.

Q. When you left Washington had you any communication with Joseph Specht? A. No; I had not seen him from the morning after he had a row with his wife I did not see anything of him.

Q. Had you a house and furniture at Gunston? A. Yes.

Q. That you left? A. Yes.

Q. Just as it was? A. I expected to be back in a few days.

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## WHY HE DIDN'T GO BACK.

Q. Why didn't you go back? A. They took everything.

Q. How did you know? A. Through my wife.

Q. You did not stay away because there was a warrant? A. No; I did not know there was one.

Q. But that was all thrown aside in a very short time? A. In a few days.

Q. And why didn't you go back then? A. Because everything had been wrecked and torn to pieces through the agency of the Spechts. My lawyer was left in charge of it, and he made arrangements to take care of it.

Q. They got a very bad feeling against you all at once? A. Yes; without a cause, I think.

Q. You could have gone back in two or three days; but you did not go back? A. It went through the whole year. I do not know how many days it was, but I came on to New York, and from there I went to Canada, because, as I tell you, things were hanging fire, and there was nothing for me to do down there.

Q. You know Alexandria, Virginia? A. Yes.

Q. How far is that from Fairfax? A. I think eight miles from Washington, and probably twelve miles on down to Gunston.

Q. You did not know that a warrant was issued there also? A. No.

Q. One at Fairfax and one at Alexandria? A. No.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the examination of Granby S. Howard, the plaintiff herein, taken before me on the 21st day of January, 1898, pursuant to my appointment dated the 17th day of January, 1898.

(Signed) W. L. SCOTT,  
Master at Ottawa.

Dated, January 26th, 1898.

# HOWARD'S FIRST WITNESS.

Mrs. Allen Called by the Plaintiff.

## HER HUSBAND NOT IN SYMPATHY WITH THE ORDER.

Considered Howard Her Teacher and Master to a Certain Extent—Admitted She gave Him Hundreds of Dollars—Mrs. Specht's Testimony—Philosophical Studies.

Mr. Osler announced that that completed the case for the defense, and the interest of those in court was roused to a high pitch when Mr. Latchford called Mrs. Allen as the first witness in rebuttal, and that lady left her place alongside of the plaintiff to take her place in the witness box.

The spectators in court expected that the first witness in rebuttal would be the plaintiff; the defense sincerely hoped that it would be, but rather doubted it. When Mrs. Allen was sworn she gave her name as Mrs. Mary T. Allen, of the city of New York, in the State of New York, in the United States of America.

Examined by Mr. Latchford, for the plaintiff, she said that she had first met Howard and the Spechts in St. Louis, where she lived at the time Howard was there. She did not remember whether any plans for the future were discussed at the first meeting between herself and Mrs. Specht with Howard. She thought that the matter was first mentioned a few days after this first meeting. Mrs. Specht and witness had for a long time worked for various charitable and educational organizations in the city of St. Louis. They had been accustomed to raise money for various organizations and other charitable and educational objects. Both of them had been deeply interested in Dr. Howard's philosophy, and tried their best to promote it. They had, previous to meeting Dr. Howard, taken much interest in this very matter of Eastern philosophy. Mrs. Specht held a very splendid position socially in St. Louis, and was thought a great deal of. Witness had taken part in various conversations between Mr. and Mrs. Specht and Dr. Howard, the conversations turning on the question of the advisability of establishing an institution for the study and development of the Eastern philosophy. The matter was discussed many times, and nearly always in the presence of Mr. Specht. While talking the matter

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over and discussing ways and means, Mrs. Specht explained that she had realized or was about to realize on some of her own property and proposed to make a donation of \$10,000 of it, one-half to a deaconesses' home at St. Louis, the other half toward the establishment of the institution in connection with Dr. Howard's work. Witness lived in St. Louis in 1891, and the present plaintiff lived there until some time in the last of May in that year. Witness understood that Howard had gone from St. Louis to Montreal. While Howard was away witness had many discussions with Mr. and Mrs. Specht about Dr. Howard and his work, and both of them showed a general desire to aid in the work.

She knew, she testified, all about the Gunston Hall purchase, for it was her own suggestion that the property should be secured for the new home. A friend of hers had the refusal of it. She thought that Howard had been present when she had made the suggestion to Mr. and Mrs. Specht. The two latter went East with a view to inspecting the property to see if it was suitable for the home, and it was eventually purchased in the summer of 1891. Witness was at Gunston the following year. She staid there a few weeks and frequently saw Howard, who was living on a little property close to Gunston Hall. She saw him at work, erecting buildings, several buildings. He was constantly engaged in such work. Mr. Specht appeared to be favorably impressed with Howard and his work. He expressed no dissatisfaction, at any rate.

#### WHOLESALE CONTRADICTIONS.

Then Mr. Latchford took up the evidence of the commission, and reading from the bulky volume, put some interesting questions. The witness blushed a trifle, put on a superior and very taking smile and answered without the least particle of hesitation. As a matter of fact the answers were frequently given before the question could be put.

Q. You heard the reading of the evidence taken in this case in the United States? asked the learned counsel. A. Yes; promptly came the reply, with a significant smile, and a well calculated, scornful intonation of voice.

Q. You heard Mr. Joseph Specht's evidence? A. Yes.

Q. That you were one of Dr. Howard's victims? A. I never considered myself a victim.

Q. So much so that you had run away from your husband in order to join Howard? A. False.

Q. Your husband objected——. A. It's a falsehood, pure and simple.

Q. Objected to you having anything to do with "Howard and his gang," as he called them? A. My husband was not in sympathy with the order, but it was not so broadly put as that.

Q. The evidence given by Mr. Specht continues: "But she ran away from her husband and came to where Howard lived, down

near Gunston, and said to him that she had left her husband, that she wanted to live with him——” A. Another lie.

Q. “Wanted to be his wife——” A. Lie again.

Q. “And he said that he already had a wife; but she said, ‘Under your order you can take just as many wives as you want——’ A. All false.

Q. “Afterwards Allen came down and took her back?” A. A monstrous lie.

Q. You know Mr. Specht? A. Yes (with a scornful look).

To further questioning witness stated that she visited the Spechts and Howards at Gunston again in 1892 and in 1893. She often saw Dr. Howard at work. She once saw him ploughing. He was engaged in intellectual work constantly. Mr. Specht’s interest in the work remained up to 1893, and when witness left Gunston was still devising ways and means to further the work.

Then Mr. Osler took hold of the witness for a little cross-examination.

Q. You are an enthusiastic admirer of Dr. Howard, apparently? A. I don’t know.

Q. Well, you are enthusiastic about his work, apparently? A. I hope so.

Q. You hope so? A. Yes.

Q. He is your Lord and Master, that is what you call him, isn’t it? A. No.

Q. He is your teacher? A. Yes.

Q. Your leader? A. Yes.

Q. Your master? A. To a certain extent.

Q. Oh, only to a certain extent? A. Yes.

Q. You help him all you can? A. Yes.

Q. And you have helped him all you can? A. Yes.

### HOW MUCH MONEY.

Q. How much money have you given him? A. Don’t know.

Q. Many thousands? A. No.

Q. A few thousands? A. No.

Q. Hundreds? A. Yes.

Q. Well, let us hear how many hundreds? A. Don’t know.

Q. Well, you gave all you could. A. Yes.

Q. Did you have any statement as to how the money was spent? A. No; I never asked for one.

Q. And one was never offered, of course? A. No.

Q. What was done with this money? A. It went to the work.

Q. What work? A. Dr. Howard’s work.

Q. How do you know? A. It went to the work of the order.

Q. It went to him. You gave the money to him, now, didn’t you? A. Yes.

Q. And that is all you know about it? (No response.)

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Q. You got no receipt or acknowledgment from Howard for your money? A. I never asked for any.

Q. What was the largest sum you ever gave to Howard? A. Don't know.

Q. You gave all you could afford, at any rate? A. Yes.

Q. Was the Specht's a happy home prior to 1891? A. I did not know them very well.

Q. Well, when you first knew them? A. They appeared to be rather unhappy.

Q. Mr. Specht was a kind, good husband and father? A. I did not think so.

Q. He could not live up to your high East standard? A. (With an amused smile, but with some emphasis) No.

Q. Now, tell us something about this mysterious order of yours. It is part and parcel of some Brahmin-Indian religion, isn't it? A. It is a Brahmo-Indian society.

Q. And perhaps you can tell us something about these elementals we have heard so much about in the evidence? A. No.

Q. You do not know what an elemental is? A. No.

Q. And you have spent all this time studying under Dr. Howard? A. No.

Q. It is not something attached to the astral bodies at any rate, is it? A. I don't know.

Q. So you know as little about the elementals as you do about what became of the money you gave Howard? A. Well, I have read about them in various philosophies.

Q. Then will you please tell us what they are and something about them, so that we shall know them when we see them? A. I can't.

Q. Dr. Howard is a very important man in your order, is he not? A. Yes.

Q. What is his title? A. Do not know.

Q. Well, what position does he hold in the order? A. Don't know.

Q. Now, I am very curious about this order. What is its organization? A. I don't know.

Q. You have rituals and signs, I suppose? A. I don't know.

#### KNOWS ONE SIGN.

Q. Well, I don't want you to give me the signs and secrets, but how do you recognize one another when you meet, for instance? A. I know of one sign.

Q. Only one? A. Yes.

Q. And who gave it? A. Dr. Howard.

Q. Well, I think he was very mean to give you only one. Do they have degrees in the order? A. No.

Q. You have heard it stated in the evidence that Howard made

the claim that he had 170 degrees, I suppose? A. I don't know of them.

Q. At any rate, you follow Dr. Howard, and I suppose that while at Gunston you went to attend the services in the Temple? A. Yes.

Q. And did Howard act as High Priest (I was going to say High Cockalorum)? A. Dr. Howard officiated.

Q. Your husband is not in sympathy with Dr. Howard and his work. A. No. He is not in sympathy with any religious movement.

Q. Did he remonstrate with you? A. No.

Q. Then all I can say is that he treated you remarkably well.

Emma E. H. Specht, wife of Mr. Joseph Specht, of Gunston Hall, Va., was the next witness called in rebuttal.

Examined by Mr. Latchford, she stated that she lived in St. Louis in 1891, having lived there from 1868. Her family life had not been very happy, her husband being unsteady. Two years after her marriage, namely in 1870, her husband failed in business, and she had sold her bridal presents and other property of her own to help him to start up in business again. Her husband succeeded with her assistance, she writing all of his advertisements and otherwise helping. She mentioned, as an example of her shrewd business, apparently, that she had made \$15,000 out of a real estate investment, which she had entered into on her own account. She also mentioned that she had written a novel. (It was a sort of philosophical production, something after the Blavatsky order, and plates, books, copyrights, and everything else connected with it were committed to the deep waters of the Potomac, with becoming solemnity, by Mr. Specht, who was careful to well ballast the sacks in which the books were placed with stones.) She had always been interested in philosophical studies, and her novel had treated of philosophical subjects. Col. Celsus Price had been a friend of hers, and when he and Dr. Howard arrived in St. Louis and began lecturing and writing on philosophical subjects, she invited them to her house. Col. Price and Dr. Howard were guests of witness and her husband's for three weeks. Dr. Howard's philosophy and plans appealed to her, as she thought it would benefit her eldest son, it being intended that he should have a place in the new institution. Dr. Howard was then residing in Montreal. Out of the proceeds of her property she took \$5,000 for Gunston Hall, and \$5,000 for the proposed home, the whole with the consent of Mr. Specht. Dr. Howard bought property near Gunston Hall in May, 1894, and began the work of establishing his home. He treated people there as a physician, and carried on his educational work. He also held regular "Bible readings," at which Mr. Specht was almost constantly in attendance for a whole year in 1893, and a part of 1894. Mr. Specht had never expressed any dissatisfaction with Howard's work until he had insisted that witness should sign over to him all

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right to Gunston Hall and Ben Venue, and she had refused. Mr. Specht was very extravagant, and wanted to squander money on improvements to the property. The trouble began a month or so after the purchase of the property in Virginia, and terminated in 1894 in the getting out of a petition in lunacy against witness by her husband. This was May 12th, 1894. Witness emphatically denied the commission evidence, so far as the mysterious character of Howard and his work was concerned. In fact, denying paragraph after paragraph of the testimony as quickly as it could be read to her by Mr. Latchford, with perfect sang-froid, the monosyllable "false" coming with parrot-like regularity. She swore positively that she had never heard Howard represent himself as an ex-M. P., a baron, a colonel of cavalry, an Indian prince, nor anything else of the kind. Sprague, Howard's Washington attorney, first told her that Dr. Howard had left the United States. He told her that now that Howard had left it would be impossible for Mr. Specht to win the lunacy case. It was Sprague who advised Dr. Howard to leave. In the lunacy proceedings, after the witness had been examined by physicians, the proceedings were thrown out of court. Mr. Specht's sole object in instituting the proceedings was to get possession of the Gunston Hall property.

#### MORE DENIALS.

In the evidence taken before the commission, your husband swore, remarked Mr. Latchford, that Dr. Howard's followers were perfect slaves to his will. They called him lord and master, and cringed like worms. It is not true, promptly came the reply from the witness. Counsel then read the following extract from Mr. Joseph Specht's evidence:

At the first meeting I attended, it seems that the Sage of Aru had to go upstairs to prepare himself for the official services he was supposed to hold as the great high priest. He came down after a little while dressed in a dark green robe made out of Irish silk, a cheap affair, looking as if it was home-made, nothing gorgeous about it, and he had a belt around his waist, with a sword sticking in his scabbard and he had on a little cap of some kind, and he came down equipped for business. Then he turned his face toward the East, where the sun rises in the morning, took off his shoes, because he said that the Lord of High would not allow any person to wear shoes that was praying, or going through the order; and he mumbled something that I didn't understand, and finally he read a chapter out of the Bible. I think it was out of the Psalms, if I mistake not. And this is about all that was done. He gave some little talk, you know, but I did not think there was anything very exhilarating about that.

Q. Or anything very wrong at that time. A. No, indeed.

Q. You attended other meetings? A. I attended another meet-



ing later on. After he had gone through the preliminaries, he said he could not hold that meeting because there were too many elementals in the room, that the room was just full of them, and commenced slashing his sword around the room so as to kill the elementals. It occurred to me that the fellow must be crazy, and I said I did not want any more of that religion, if it was religion. But of course, out of regard for my wife and those who were present, I did not say anything—I restrained myself.

Q. Did the meeting go on? A. The meeting went on after the elementals had been killed; I suppose they were lying all over the floor, but I didn't see any of them.

Q. After the elementals were killed he went on with the meeting, just as before? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you have any talk to your wife about the absurdity of all this proceeding at that time?

Witness positively swore that she had never seen Dr. Howard with such a gown as that described on, had never seen him wear a sword or act in the manner described. There was not a syllable of truth in the whole story. Neither was there a particle of truth in the story of Rev. Joseph Specht's, that she had claimed that letters came to her through a mysterious agency from the Himalayas.

Mr. Latchford read witness the following from Mr. Specht's evidence:

One evening I sat in my room in a rocking chair, smoking a cigar. Mrs. Specht talking about her religious affairs, and I told her that there was no occasion for anything of that kind; that that matter had been settled.

She said: "Yes there is, because you have robbed me of my religion and my master"—having reference to Howard, I suppose. And she said: "I am living a life of prostitution with you, and I have been your concubine for 29 years."

I then told her that I thought the parting of the ways had come, that she should never occupy my bed again as long as she lived, and I ordered her to go into another bedroom.

Witness said there was not one word of truth in the statement as made. The truth of the matter was that her husband had made an attack upon her life, and witness had only been saved by her daughter with great difficulty. He was very cruel to her sometimes. He compelled her to make him her trustee, and after that she left, and took an action against him for alimony.

To further questions witness stated that the diamonds she had given to Howard to dispose of were off-color diamonds, for which far too much had been paid. As to the clothes disposed of in the Washington auction room, they were mere castoff clothes of the children, the accumulation of many years, which had been littering the cellars of Gunston Hall, and which had been sold at the suggestion of Mr. Specht. As to the story that she had received a letter with a lotus flower in it, supposed to have come from India,

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she said that she had never seen a lotus flower. She never said that she had means of getting letters from the Himalayas in a few seconds. She only wished she knew how. She gave the checks for her allowance to Dr. Howard, and he cashed them.

After a few letters, which showed that for some time Mr. Specht had been interested in Howard's work, had been put in, Mr. Osler took hold of the witness for cross-examination.

### MRS. SPECHT CROSS-EXAMINED.

Q. You had no means in your own right when you married Mr. Specht? he inquired. A. No, replied the witness, laconically.

Q. You were poor and he was poor? A. Yes.

Q. But you had a happy home? A. Yes, at first.

Q. You had a fine, tall, handsome and kind husband? (Witness smiled assent.)

Q. And you were a fine, smart, intelligent-looking young woman? (Another pleased smile.)

Q. I have no doubt that when you walked out in St. Louis together, people said there's a good-looking couple. (Witness shook her head deprecatingly and signified dissent by a shake of the head.)

Q. Well, you must have had all of the good looks then. You do not live with your husband now? A. No.

Q. You live with Dr. Howard at Carleton Place, do you not? A. I live at Dr. Howard's house and take my meals at the hotel.

Q. You used to live happily with your husband at St. Louis once? A. Yes.

Q. That was before this Indian philosophy overtook you. Now, I want you to tell the court and jury something about this Indian philosophy about which we have been hearing. In the first place, what about the order? What do you call it? A. I don't know.

Q. You don't know. Well, what does it consist of? A. Don't know.

Q. Well, of course, you know there is an order? A. No.

Q. Well, let me see if I can assist you. You have corresponded with Dr. Howard and know his writing, I suppose? A. Yes.

Q. Well (producing letter), look at this letter and tell me if this is Dr. Howard's signature in his own handwriting? A. Yes.

Q. Now, look at the address. You will observe that it is addressed to you. A. Yes.

Q. Did you receive it? A. Yes.

### REFRESHED HER MEMORY.

Q. Well, let me read it to the jury; perhaps it will refresh your memory.

The letter, which was filed as an exhibit, read as follows:

Montreal, 21 August, 1891.

Mrs. E. E. H. Specht,  
3723 Pine street, St. Louis, Mo.

My Dear Friend:

Your letter of the 11th inst. came duly to hand and I have written several replies thereto, but none of them seemed to satisfy me, so I did not mail them.

Of course, you know that I should be most delighted to get rid of the necessity of doing anything with the financial part of the work, but there is no one else here who can relieve me of the duty; if I were to send to India for one of our Order of the Viasya caste he would be ignorant of the manners and customs of this people.

Our order pledges its integrity for the administration to the just uses of all funds that may be subscribed for the work in hand; this work can only be conducted by myself, as I am the only one whom the Council can control for the higher work, to me has been committed this trust. The work must be done according to their instructions, if done at all, nor are they willing to put their affairs in such a position that a conflict of jurisdiction can be ever possible. Do you comprehend the possibility indicated? We are having a very nice visit from Mrs. P. J. Willis and her two lovely daughters; they came last Sunday and will, I expect, remain for two or three weeks with us. Mr. Quintas Price has come home, so we have a full house at present.

I presume that your son Edward has returned to St. Louis by this time; he said he expected to be home to-night. Joseph is quite well, as I suppose you know from himself.

In regard to what I said to you about writing to him of the business at home, you perhaps have not thought that if you wish him to ever believe that Mr. Specht means what he says, viz., that Joseph is no longer to expect anything from him until he has proved his manhood, nor shall he ever go in the store again. So long as you are keeping him posted, and from what you said he is under the impression that the money Mr. Sprecht has promised to our order is given on his account, because he is taking it up; this, you know, is not the case, because we were promised, say \$10,000, before anything of the kind was contemplated; the rest you know; but I want you to put yourself right in this, because it would seem as though we were selling our membership for money, which we will not do. Joseph is not a member of the order, and it will take a different disposition on his part before he can ever be one of us.

#### NOT LIKE FREEMASONS.

This order is not like the Odd Fellows or Freemasons, where a man can gain admittance on the payment of a certain fee; all the money in the world will never advance a man an eye-lash length beyond his spiritual merit. I suppose you are aware of this in part?

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divine and not from curiosity, as at present, and that he will be able to help as professor in our school and help me in my practice also; but he must alter his gate if he does. Now, do you misunderstand me; he is doing excellently as far as keeping himself straight is concerned, but I am speaking of our work from the Master's side of it, where we look to the soul and not to the actions of the individual. He has no conception of what is expected and required of those who walk with us, nor would he be able to bear the strain now even if he knew; therefore, it behooves you to be careful what you say to him about these matters, for fear that you may block his way forever. We can overlook many a blunder, but not one self-willed act of man. God does not do so, neither does our council. Human arrogance is not to be tolerated for a moment, not even from a king.

And again you bring around your son the elemental of the worldly life he has to forget before he can ever be what you hope for him. It is for the good of all concerned that I speak, for I wish to see him succeed in what he has undertaken.

Now I hope you will understand me. I spake in all kindness as one who would do you good; but you must remember that not even you, much as we love you, can be passed by unproved when you err.

I am faithfully yours,

G. S. HOWARD.

The above letter was written with typewriter, which Howard appears to use for most of his correspondence. He is even very chary of his handwriting, even in making corrections, and the faulty punctuation, mistakes in spelling and involved and incomplete sentences are in the original, and apparently due to mere mechanical errors. A few short but essential words omitted in the typewritten matter were written in Howard's handwriting, and also the signature, so that the letter was easy to identify.

After the letter had been read Mr. Osler tried for some time to get the witness to explain certain sentences, but she had the same answer every time, "Don't know."

#### THE ELEMENTALS.

Q. What does he mean when he speaks about the Elemental with the capital "E"? asked the learned counsel. A. Don't know.

Q. He speaks of a promise to pay \$10,000 and says, "the rest you know." What was the rest? A. Don't know.

Q. So you didn't know the rest, after all; but you hear that the Doctor spoke of the order? (No answer.)

Then Mr. Osler showed witness another letter, which she identified as being in her own handwriting and as having been sent by her to her husband. Mr. Osler read it to the court as follows, and filed it in the case:

Washington, 11, 30, '95.

My Dear Joseph:

The box containing the turkey and other good things came to hand Wednesday evening, and Miss Hemstreet and I have enjoyed them ever since. The flowers, pinks, roses, chrysanthemums, all lovely, arrived Thursday, just as we were lamenting that she had forgotten to have a few flowers for Sallie, the housekeeper's wedding. She was married and left the same day. I will proceed now to try and explain to you, in an unbiased manner and with no thought in my mind, or feeling in my heart, but that of truth and **kindliness**, entirely free from all judgment or malice. Let us put aside the question of religious differences for a moment altogether and look at this matter in a clear light. You know no human being can be the sole controller and arbiter of another one's inclinations and tendencies. A woman is bound to cherish her own individuality sacredly, married or not married. Now, you can imagine for one moment that if I was really the modern church woman you would wish me to be, that any obscure country or city life could ever satisfy my ambition to work out what I would think my proper destiny? I would belong to literary clubs, go into first-class society, spend money lavishly on charity, etc. All my life I have secretly cherished the ambition to build some great institution to benefit man, so that I would have not lived in vain.

## SOME PHILOSOPHY.

A woman of my active temperament would never be content with a purely domestic life. It is possible that in spite of our long married life we have not come into such close relationship that you could fully understand my longings, aims and ambitions of the past years? I hope you will believe me when I say that I have no other motive in writing you all this, save to prove my view of existing conditions, that I do not blame you for anything. The agony that the mere thought of separating from you caused me was so great that it threw me upon a bed of suffering, when I almost lost my life. I had no opportunity to show you by indulging you in material luxuries how I agonized over what has been the long, deep-rooted growth of years, nor will you ever know; this matter of our life-long companionship cannot be lightly broken, you know well enough, but even this cannot change what is irrevocable, viz., the conditions of our minds and what has also been the growth of years in our characters. I saw myself in the spirit, at home trying very hard for hours, to light our cooking stove fire; matches and paper would light and invariably die out, without being able to ignite the fine kindling wood; you came and tried, oh! so hard, to do the same, in vain; we both tried to relight our hearth fire; it was impossible; our home fire had turned to dead ashes, and neither you nor I, nor both together, could relight it. The colored servant lit it easily and cooked dinner on it. That set me to thinking. Living in such con-

stant companionship with me, bound as I was to be, to an idle life, unable to carry out any special plans of my own, our aims and lives would have grown wider and wider apart, when innumerable misunderstandings would have been the result. Two remedies alone would have healed the constant breaches between us. Had you humbled yourself to the dust and served God with all your heart, devoting all your energies, powers and money to Christ's cause, living just as He taught, a pure, self-sacrificing life, and I joined heart and soul with you. Or, secondly, had you joined heart and soul with me in living as the aspirer of that which is holiest, highest and best in man and woman, been a sincere truth-seeker under the new dispensation, we would have both loved each other so purely and grown into each other as one, as man and wife should.

You ask me to forget what I know of that which has become part of myself. These higher truths have become so ingrained into my being that not even death will disperse them; but, even if I were perfectly willing and anxious to recant and honestly desired to abide by what you demand and desire, there are absolutely no positive means in my power to convince you for good, all and forever, that I was entirely free and uninfluenced forever from that which antagonizes you. Can you not see that there is a law here over which neither you nor I have full control? Which places us in the most pitiable plight? Shakespeare says: "Trifles, light as air, are proofs as strong as Holy Writ," to confirm suspicion. Some innocent action or word of mine, a chance newspaper paragraph, indeed, hundreds of irrelevant things, might arouse that which glows as an unextinguishable fire within you. On the other hand, what guarantee could I have, if I obeyed your will in this matter, that you fully trusted and believed me, or that you had changed your views of me? I am fully convinced that whether I do as you wish me to do or still pursue the course I have marked out for myself, that all attempts on our part to live the peaceful life God intends us to do by any reconciliation on our part, will be futile and useless.

Matters must now, I am sad to say, with a heart forever broken, pursue the course inevitable under such unhappy and unfortunate conditions. As I understood you, when you came to see me in October, it was your wish and mine. So let it be! The uprooting of that which it took 28, nay 29, years to plant and succor cannot be done in a short time.

The attorney for me has been in court all week. He says to please tell you it will be totally impossible to have any meeting next week, but week after next he can attend to it.

I know you will coincide with me in this matter, perfectly satisfied that our unhappy life lived in companionship would be far worse than separation. It is inevitable! I shall be glad to see you any time you may come to see me while matters are pending between us. Let us hope the agony may all soon be over for us both.

Your loving

EMMA.

It is just a good, dutiful, Christian wife's letter, remarked the witness, as she identified it.

Let us see what a good, dutiful wife's letter is like, said Mr. Osler, as he proceeded to read it.

You seem to have loved him, remarked Mr. Osler, as he finished the reading.

### LOVES HER HUSBAND STILL.

Yes; I love him still, replied the witness.

Q. Just as a dutiful Christian wife should? A. Yes.

Q. Yes; on paper. (Silence.)

Q. You saw a good deal of Dr. Howard while he was at Ganston. What did he do? A. Well, he was busy in connection with the institution.

Q. What doing? A. Investigating and teaching his philosophy.

Q. Yes, we know; the philosophy that separates wife from husband. What else did he do? A. He had plenty to do.

Q. What did you say you call the order? A. I did not say.

Q. Was it The Royal Ancient Order of the Oriental Mysteries? A. No.

Q. Well, how will this do, The Occidental Branch of the Sat-Ba-Koah? A. No.

Q. Did you ever hear it called anything? A. No.

Q. Dr. Howard never told you? A. No.

Q. Then I must say he treated you very badly. A. As a matter of fact, he had several names for the order.

Q. But he told you about his ritual, I suppose? A. No.

### SOME OF THE RITUAL.

Q. He didn't tell you about his ritual, but you knew, of course, that he had one? A. No.

Q. Well, indeed, he did treat you unkindly, for here we have in connection with the evidence taken before the commission the following ritual for the opening and closing of the lodge. Now, listen.

Proceeds to read document as follows:

### OPENING SERVICE.

The members of this class, No. —, Occidental Branch of the Oriental Order of the Sat Bai Goocha, will repair to their places, the members group themselves about the tables, as if in waiting, the Chowdrani coming forward addressing them, saying: "Ladies, why are you waiting here?"

(All answer)—We are waiting for our Overseer, who is to come from the East with instructions from the Council of our Order for our guidance in the search for Wisdom and the Ancient Truths.

Chowdrani—Then who are you? A. Sat Bai Goocha.

Q. What mean you by this answer? A. The seven ladies of the secret chamber.

Q. How am I to know you to be such? A. By our Sign, Word and Token.

Q. What is your word? (They all come forward, and each in turn whispers the word in her ear.)

Q. What, then, is your token? (Each now presents her token for inspection.)

Q. You are most assuredly the Metri whom I am seeking, but before I give fellowship in Prasad, I would have you describe your chamber. Where is it? A. Our chamber is at a retired spot near ancient Himavat. It is a very holy place called Goloka, but owing to its great distance from us, it has pleased the council of our order to permit us to hold our meetings under the direction of a Chowdrani duly appointed to lead us in devotions. We believe you to be that person, and if so be you will display your authority, that we may know you as such and listen to your words, and, hearing, obey the instructions you bring us from Maharajah Taya.

Q. Your belief is well founded. I am Chowdrari. But I would inquire further to test your knowledge. What is the form of the chamber which you have mentioned? A. It is circular, having a dome-shaped roof, typifying the vaults of the heavens.

Q. What does it contain? A. Seven chairs, a circular table, and a lamp of a very peculiar construction, the light of which is reflected downward on Grantha.

Q. What do you mean by Grantha? A. In our language, which is in the ancient Devan-agri, it means the Book of the Sacred Laws.

Q. What does this peculiarly constructed lamp signify in your philosophy? A. It is said to be made after the pattern of the one used in the ancient temple. It represents the Lord of Light, and reminds us of the presence of His Spirit in our souls, and also admonishes us of the necessity of keeping our souls clean from the defilements of all earthly vice, so that His light divine may shine forth.

#### CLOSING SERVICES.

Sat Bai Gooha—The time draweth nigh, and I will now ask you to assist me in closing this Durbar, but before declaring it closed let us pray.

#### SOULS IN SWARGA.

Diaus-patir—Lord God, we thank Thee for this opportunity which it hath blessed Thee to vouchsafe unto us of again meeting in Thy name, and we praise and adore Thy great name for Thy loving kindness. Confirm our purposes to live righteously and soberly in this present life, free from the fetters of earthly folly and all worldly wisdom from the council. Inspire us with hope born of the assurance that we shall one day arrive at the rest of the undisturbed and



find our completeness by absorption in Thee, which is the Nirvanya of the blest. Now may Thy grace and peace follow and abide with us in all our lives as we go forth from this chamber, and when we be done with the life of the flesh we pray Thee to receive our souls in Swarga.

(All respond) So may it be.

Chowdrani—Metri—It becomes our duty now to place in a safe place these things which belong to our chamber. Let the book be secured from all inquisitive eyes. Let the chairs be back to back. Now let us all unite in giving the holy sign.

(All rising, turn their chairs back to back, and standing, give the sign.)

Chowdrani—Sat Bai—The Chowk Bythnia no longer exists, chaos reigns. So it was in the beginning, and so it shall be in the end. It is only in our own inward consciences where memory can treasure the reality, and so may we treasure the great truths that we may gather here. As I bear away with me the records of this meeting, so may you bear away in your hearts the Master's blessing. Peace be with you always.

There remaining nothing more to be done, I, in the name of the Master under whom we serve, declare this chamber closed, and to stand closed until the next regular meeting, unless in case of emergency it should sooner be convened, in which case you shall have due notice. God be with you.

(All respond) So may it be.

Well, at any rate, it takes seven to form a lodge, and perhaps he has not been able to get seven yet, remarked Mr. Osler, after reading the documents.

Q. What was the form of admission to the order? A. I don't know.

Q. Was there an oath or obligation? A. No.

Q. (Producing document.) Well, here is a paper purporting to be an obligation signed by Sylvester Nidelet, Celsus Price and Quintus Price, put in at the commission. Did you have to take an obligation like that? A. No.

# JURY GIVES ITS VERDICT FOR THE STAR.

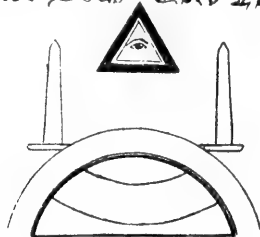
Less Than Five Minutes Out of Court to Deliberate.

## THE ADDRESSES BY THE COUNSEL AND AN INTERESTING CHARGE BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE.

Perth, April 28.—Of all the exhibits put in by the defense none was of greater interest, perhaps, than the original obligation of Howard's order shown to Mrs. Specht in the witness box during her cross-examination by Mr. Osler, Q. C.

The document which was fantastically, but not very artistically, engrossed in red and black ink, was as follows:

*Dixit Deus Esto Lux*



**Oath Taken by Victims.**

I, A. B., of my own free will, according to my conscience, humbly kneeling before Almighty God, the great all-wise and incomprehensible Creator of the universe, in whom and by whom I live, move and have my being, declare my faith, I believe in One God, the Eternal first cause, having neither beginning of days or end of life. Who is Infinite and Eternal, ever present, all seeing, all wise, and that His eyes do always behold me and all other of His creatures; that He is all-powerful, by His decree I am, all things are, and He is.

I believe He is Spirit, and is the life and essence of all things, animate and inanimate, organic and inorganic, and that He created all things by the word of His ineffable power, first Spirit, then Soul, and lastly the material universe of form and matter. I believe in the Trinity as the executive power of God, for the government of the universe under the One. I believe in arch-angels, angels and spirits, who act as the ministers of God to men. I believe the Spirit of eternal life pervades all things. Therefore, nothing is ever, was, or can be, destroyed, so long as the spirit of life exists. I believe in the immortality of the soul and of its continued existence under

altered conditions after change men call death. I believe in the unseen or disembodied state of the soul, that rewards and punishments are given to this immortal for deeds done in the body.

I believe in that condition of blessed peace called Heaven, and one of most abject misery called hell. I believe in the existence of good and evil, and the individuality of the powers of good and evil, that the soul of the perfect men or the twice born are taken into the presence of the Gods and made the companions of the angels. That those whose lives are evil in this life will after death be banished from among the chosen and become outcasts, the companions of the fallen angels and reprobate men, from which condition there is, therefore, no redemption, but an endless banishment and continued curse, which the immortal soul must forever endure.

I believe God so loves His creatures that He has in times past and will again send the spirit of His ministers, who, taking upon themselves the form of humanity, dwelt among men, seeking to be to them samples of Holiness.

#### INCARNATION OF SPIRITS.

I believe in incarnation of spirits in human form; in all this I recognize God's goodness, wisdom, justice and mercy, for all of which I am truly grateful, returning thanksgiving and praise, as it is proper I should. Believing in all this most fully and truly, I now call upon Him to witness this, my solemn obligation, and may He be my judge and reward me my portion among the evil-doers if I fail to keep it inviolate forever.

I, A. B., a man of mature years and sound mind, of my own free will and accord, calling upon God and His Holy Angels to be my witnesses. and in the presence of my sponsor and the council of brothers here assembled, do most solemnly promise and swear that I will always conceal and never reveal the secrets of this council, or any other degree or degrees, of this Royal Oriental Order of the Ancient Mysteries, under what name soever it or they may be called, nor any of its ritual, rites or ceremonies. I swear that I will never, by any sign, word or token, make known any of the arts, part or principles; that I will not write them, cut, carve or indite them upon anything moveable or immovable under the whole canopy of Heaven; that I will not myself do so, nor will I permit another to do if in my power to prevent it. I swear to protect them to the utmost of my ability, promising to risk life and limb in their defense, if required so to do. I swear that I will always aid and protect a brother master or fellow of the craft against all and every person, power or thing to the greatest of my ability without regard to the consequence to myself, when knowing him to be a master, brother or fellow of the order, be he right or be he wrong, acknowledging always the bond of my fraternal fealty and leaving the equity of his cause to the judgment by a council of his peers or the

decision of the Supreme Sponsor of the Order. Further, I swear to maintain his secrets and conceal the same from all persons whomsoever as carefully as I would my own, and as I would wish him under like circumstances to conceal mine if in his possession, only and excepting when required by the mandate of the Supreme Sponsor, duly attested, to reveal the same; and, further, I swear to protect and defend the person, honor, property and life of the Supreme Sponsor against all and every person or persons, powers, governments, place or thing whatsoever; that I will obey his mandates in all things in a prompt and willingly and unquestionably obedience, promising to travel over sea or land to carry out his messages, acting always and in every particular in exact obedience expressed or understood and as conveyed to me personally by the Sponsor or by a duly accredited courier, or by the Supreme Sponsor's mandate, duly attested. I promise and swear to obey the Sponsor in all things, and to respect all duly and regularly constituted authority under him as the supreme head of this order.

Promising at all times to labor for the advancement and good name of the order, to promote its interests and conserve its secrets, binding myself therefore by the penalties of the order, which are, that having been adjudged guilty of the violation of this most solemn and sacred obligation by a council of my peers, and the same being confirmed by the Supreme Sponsor, that my body shall be dismembered according to the ancient and most holy decree; to all of which I pledge my most sacred honor, oath and word, my faith in Supreme Creator and my hope of my immortality beyond the grave; and this I do without any equivocation or mental reservation in any manner, matter or form whatsoever.

So may it be.

In duplicate.

" QUINTUS PRICE,  
 " CELSUS PRICE,  
 " SYLVESTER L. NIDLET.

Q. So, continued Mr. Osler, Howard did not enlighten you to a very great extent about his order. He did not tell you its name, he did not give you the ritual, he did not give you the obligation, he did not tell you who belonged to it, and he did not tell you what he was doing. All you knew about it was that you were out \$5,000. But how was all the money you gave him spent? A. In furthering the work.

Q. In what way? A. In various ways.

Q. Well, tell me one way? A. In connection with the institution at Gunston. It was an institution for the pursuit of philosophical studies.

Q. Philosophical studies, eh? A. Yes.

Q. Well, just tell us what kind. A. The studies included philosophy, history, authorship, etc.

Q. I should think that "How I dropped \$5,000 at Gunston" would be a good title for your next novel. All you know about it is that

you are out \$5,000? A. Well, I was perfectly satisfied with the way it was expended. I never complained.

Q. No, your husband made the money and Howard spent it.

Mrs. Morrey, of St. Louis, eldest daughter of the last witness, was the next witness, corroborating one or two points of her mother's testimony.

That completed the case in rebuttal. The defense called no witnesses, counsel for plaintiff being willing to admit that the plaintiff had been present in court at all the sittings during this trial, and was then in court.



**Mr. B. B. Osler, Q. C., Addressing the Jury.**

A pin could be heard drop in the court when Mr. Osler, Q. C., began his address to the jury on behalf of the defense. The learned counsel wasted no time on preliminary remarks.

Mr. Osler, having read the article complained of to the jury, said: The plain and simple matter is for you to say whether that is a libel or not. A libel is something which brings a man unjustly into discredit with his neighbors, something which is untrue. Here is a man asking large damages from this newspaper; asking you to put money in his pocket, and he dare not go into that box and let me ask him a few questions!

He is right here in court at this moment. That man dare not have his past unearthed. He cannot fence himself here as he did in the examination for discovery by saying, "I decline to answer that question." He has got to if he goes into that box.

There he sits in court with the three women, his wife, Mrs. Sprecht and Mrs. Allen. He puts the women forward like a coward, but dare not go into the box himself.

Just bring your own broad common sense to bear on this, and you will see why he daren't have the leaves of his past life overturned. Four years after it happened he comes in and asks you to give him damages, because this newspaper published a dispatch from Washington, a dispatch which was in substance, and in fact true. Oh, yes! A man may be injured by a newspaper paragraph four years after its publication; but let him come to the jury and show the wound. Let us see if he has got any character to be taken away. Especially is that due to a man who is placed by the evidence in the position that this man is. That man is unable to get up in the box and say that what is said of him is untrue. If nothing is said about a man there is nothing to answer; but we are here boldly saying that this article is true. He keeps away because he wants to keep away from the truth. Now, gentlemen, I don't care whether this warrant was properly issued or not, according to the laws of the State of Virginia.

#### DID HE FLEE?

Was there one issued, and did he flee? There was, we claim, a warrant, and I ask you to say that he fled. Why? This man had a property at Gunston Hall—if you believe it—worth four thousand dollars, and there was Cisco, the yellow dog. He had all the luxuries of his trade, and he left them all behind; left for the north, for a land where there was no warrant. Why did he leave his property?

Why did he never go back? Was it because he was wanted as a witness to prove Mrs. Specht's insanity; or if he had to flee because of the danger that he would have to prove her insane; what were his dealings with the woman? Take either horn of the dilemma. He fled to Canada either to avoid giving evidence or to evade arrest, and in Canada he has remained ever since. The winters may be cold here and Gunston may be warm, but he prefers the cold north, with a fur overcoat, to Fairfax county gaol!

Did you ever see such a reckless piece of litigation as this attempt to coin a bad character into good money? It is a long way to come to defend an action of this character, and expensive work. He says, "This Montreal Star would rather pay hundreds of dollars to me than go to the expense of defending the action." But no man is fit to publish a newspaper who isn't willing to plough out his furrow when he starts. We were left alone for four years, and we took it up where we let it off. We were determined, as honest journalists,

to see if this man is what he is described to be. That was what he was banking on. Yes; some people would pay rather than come up from Montreal to Perth. It would have been cheaper to have paid a few hundred dollars than to do what the proprietors of the Montreal Star have done. No doubt it would have been cheaper to have settled.

### IS HE AN HONEST MAN?

Now, gentlemen, what is he? Is he an honest man, getting an honest living, or is he a man with strong influence and whose strong will works on women with balderdash about mystery and occultism and Indian orders and philosophy? What philosophy has he taught these women? They don't know even the name of the order. You would suppose there weren't any order, he has got them so completely drilled and under his control. They have got to say what he says. But look at this letter on the 21st of August. Evidently some small part is dictated to Mrs. Specht. This is what he writes:

Of course you know that I should be most delighted to get rid of the necessity of doing anything with the financial part of the work, but there is no one else here who can relieve me of the duty; if I were to send to India for one of our Order of the Viasya caste he would be ignorant of the manners and customs of this people.

Our order pledges its integrity for the administration to the just uses of all funds that may be subscribed for the work in hand; this work can only be conducted by myself, as I am the only one whom the council can control for the higher work; to me has been committed this trust. The work must be done according to their instructions, if done at all, nor are they willing to put their affairs in such a position that a conflict of jurisdiction can be ever possible. Do you comprehend the possibility indicated? From what you said he is under the impression that the money Mrs. Specht has promised to our Order is given on his account, because he is taking it up; this, you know, is not the case, because we were promised, say \$10,000, before anything of the kind was contemplated; the rest you know, but I want you to put yourself right in this, because it would seem as though we were selling our membership for money, which we will not do. Joseph is not a member of the Order and it will take a different disposition on his part before he can ever be one of us.

### NOT LIKE FREEMASONS.

This order is not like the Odd Fellows or Freemasons, where a man can gain admittance on the payment of a certain fee. All the money in the world will never advance a man an eyelash length beyond his spiritual merit. I suppose you are aware of this in part.

And again you bring around your son the elemental of the worldly life he has to forget before he can ever be what you hope for

him. It is for the good of all concerned that I speak, for I wish to see him succeed in what he has undertaken.

Now I hope you will understand me. I speak in all kindness as one who would do you good, but you must remember that not even you, much as we love you, can be passed by unproved when you err. I am faithfully yours,

G. S. HOWARD.

We are not saying in our article that these things are true. But can't you see that this man has broken up this home, has come between this husband and wife? She comes here and tells you that her husband was a dissipated man and her son a thief. That woman is far gone, so far under the influence of a bad man, that she is willing for that man to besmire the name of her husband and her son, who is now a clergyman. That son has a character, because he cannot get admitted to orders unless he has. And look at the husband. He sends her down, in 1895, boxes of fruit and flowers, and turkeys, etc., and she thanks him for his thoughtfulness and writes a letter, in effect, saying she has no complaint to make against him, but wanting him to live up to this new dispensation, this Howard philosophy, this Indian religion, this mockery of all that is sacred and right. I ask you to believe the husband and son. She, the wife of twenty-nine years, says to him, I cannot live with you, I am committing adultery with you; pressing him to join the order, so that Howard may get the money he had made out of his pocket.

#### DAREN'T GIVE EVIDENCE.

Yes; that is the man who has asked you twelve men to give him damages and he sits over there (pointing to Howard) and daren't come here (pointing to the witness box). Why is that box empty? Why is that seat full? Because if he faces cross-examination he has got to show that the Star's article was all wrong, because it was not strong enough; that we wrote with such moderation that his wisest plan was not to compromise himself here. He is a deceiver of women with his mysteries and nonsense and balderdash. He extracts money. For what purpose? Howard's pocket! Now, gentlemen, let his counsel say what he will, you might think when his counsel has spoken that five minutes from the man himself in the witness box would have been better. Need I detain you further. You have heard the witnesses, the women in the box; all emotional women; women of a class likely to be imposed upon. Take the broad fact that there is a desolate hearth in the Specht family, where the woman who lived in happiness for twenty-nine years should be, and taking care of the evening of her husband's life, taking care of the man whom she took for better or for worse, for richer or poorer, according to her marriage vows. The hearth is desolate, the woman, the head of the happy home, is here, board-



ing at an hotel, living in this man's house. Picture what was; picture what is, and you can only come to one conclusion.

#### ADDRESS OF MR. LATCHFORD, COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFF.

Mr. Latchford—May it please the court and gentlemen of the jury: The task that falls on my shoulders is not an easy one. Added to my own comparative inexperience at the bar, I have to follow, not only the ablest advocate perhaps in Canada, but one of the very ablest on this continent, a man who has the reputation that it is almost sufficient to have him against a prisoner to have him condemned, and sufficient if he is in his favor to have the accused go free. I have to follow one of the ablest and most eloquent advocates that could address a jury.

As the evidence has shown the matter is, after all, a comparatively simple one. My learned friend has made much of the fact that the plaintiff in this case did not go into the witness box. That is his privilege if he chooses not to go; if he feels that the charges made against him have been sufficiently answered he may decide, as he did, not to go into the box. In so far as his relations with the Specht family are concerned, you have heard the evidence taken in the city of Washington and you have heard on the other side those ladies who were so slanderously assailed in some of these depositions. We have placed Mrs. Allen in the box, who has been attacked in the vilest manner in these depositions. You have heard her most complete denial of the statements attributed to her. I ask which are you going to believe? Do you doubt the statement made by that lady? Then, if you believe her, as I think you must, you must discredit the man who, after not twenty-nine years of happy life, but a great many years of constant difficulties with his wife, has now driven her to seek a refuge here. She tells you that when her children were infants in arms she was obliged to flee from him. When he met with business reverses she came back to him like a good wife; she worked on, helping him to write his advertisements in St. Louis. My friend made a great deal of fun of this and entertained you hugely with his description of Eastern philosophy.

#### WISDOM FROM THE EAST.

Our wisdom comes from the East. Not merely men and women in ordinary walks of life, but learned professors of universities have been devoting themselves to the study of the system which seeks to explain many of the mysteries of the life with which we are surrounded. These people were all interested. Mrs. Specht had been for years, and Mrs. Allen, and they met there. Mrs. Specht was accustomed to doing good on a large scale. She spent \$2,500 in establishing an Order of Deaconesses. The work that Howard was carrying on was seen by Specht daily until 1893, and he hadn't a word of objection. In all that time did he make any charge that

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that \$5,000 had been obtained by fraud? Then Specht desires to obtain possession of his wife's property and all this trouble begins. And she declines to give up her estate to her husband, and he starts proceedings in lunacy against her. It is said that Howard came to Canada because a warrant was issued against him. They could have got this man in the United States if they wanted him. The detective swears in the most positive way that extradition proceedings were begun. Mr. Specht says they contemplated such proceedings. There is no evidence that Howard had committed fraud, and nothing was done toward securing his extradition. If the article in the Star were true and you should find it blameless in other respects, it is wrong in that. You must find, if you find for the defendants, that every material part of the article is true. We do not ask for any heavy damages; they should be proportioned to the wrong done the plaintiff.

# THE CHARGE TO THE JURY.

Legal Points Carefully Reviewed.

## JUDGE MEREDITH SCORES HOWARD FOR NOT ENTERING THE WITNESS BOX.

The New Doctrine—A Mere Scheme for Getting Money from Credulous People—Wretched, Unhappy Lives and Broken Homes—The Journalist's Duty.



**His Lordship, Sir William Meredith, Chief Justice of Ontario, before whom the Case was Tried.**

The Chief Justice—Gentlemen of the jury: Anyone who prints and publishes of another defamatory words, words that are calculated to bring into odium or injure another, must, unless he can excuse or justify them, answer in damages to the person injured. Nor is it necessary that the plaintiff should show that the words he complains of are untrue. All he has to do is to prove that these words were published by the person he is suing, and if, in the opinion of the jury and of the judge, they are susceptible of a defamatory meaning, the responsibility is cast on the defendant to justify the publication. Now that is the law with regard to what is a libel; but it is for you to determine whether the paragraph complained of is libelous or not. Differing from other branches of the law, in

a case of libel, the jury is the judge of the law and of the fact. It is for you to decide whether the paragraph is libelous. Now the plaintiff has chosen not to set out as a libel the whole article or paragraph. But it has been broken up into three parts, each of which is made a cause of action.

The first is so much of the publication as is contained in these words:

"Dr. Howard, hypnotist, said to be in Montreal at present. He is wanted in the neighboring republic for alleged frauds on one of his victims."

That, the plaintiff says, is defamatory of him. The defense, besides formal denial of the publication justifying the statement, they say for certain reasons stated in the pleadings that the statement is true in substance and in fact.

The next complaint which the plaintiff makes is directed to so much of the publication as is contained in these words:

"Unless some hitch occurs in securing his extradition, Dr. Granby S. Howard, who is alleged to have swindled Mrs. Joseph H. Specht, of Gunston Hall, Va., wife of a wealthy St. Louis clothing dealer, out of \$5,000, will soon be lodged behind the bars of Fairfax county jail. The Commonwealth Attorney of that county has been informed that Howard is in Montreal, and is now in communication with the police authorities of that city with a view of his detention until government officials can secure the co-operation of the State Department in securing extradition. Negotiations to that end are now in progress, and the Fairfax authorities are confident that Howard will be brought to trial."

What the defendants say with regard to that which justifies the statement is that prior to the 14th of May, 1894, the plaintiff resided in Fairfax county, Va., with Mr. Specht and his wife; that plaintiff acquired great influence over Mrs. Specht, and that Mr. Joseph Specht charged the plaintiff with having obtained from his wife \$5,000 among other things, and that a warrant was duly issued.

Then the third complaint is of the words:

"They forced him to flee for fear of arrest."

With regard to that the defendants set out the same matters which I have already read to you, and then say that these are what forced him to flee for fear of arrest.

#### THE JUSTIFICATION PLEA.

It is true that when a defendant undertakes to justify an alleged libel that he is bound to justify the whole article; but with this qualification it is not every minute, unimportant detail that must be justified. If the material facts, if the substance of the charge is made out, then the plea of justification is established. There is a conflict of testimony here between the father and the son as supported, if you believe the testimony by other witnesses examined on the commission, and the wife, Mrs. Allen, and the daughter.

Now, before dealing with the question of the evidence, if incidentally it has been made out to your satisfaction that the plaintiff has been guilty of an offense against the criminal law, that the article would have been justified if it had said, not that he was accused, but that he was guilty, although the statement was that he was accused, it would follow that he was worthy of the more serious accusation he must be deserving of the lesser one, so far as that is true. Now, the evidence has gone to the extent of endeavoring to support this charge of fraud. According to the testimony of Mr. Specht and his son, the Spechts had been married since 1868, and they lived happily until this plaintiff came to St. Louis in 1891. Then his wife, who had been interested in philosophic matters, seemed to take an interest in some doctrines that Howard was or professed to be experienced of. That he himself was imposed upon by him; that he seemed honest and would impress people favorably on first acquaintance. As the result of all this his wife, with his consent, was desirous of assisting Howard's objects, and to that end he furnished \$5,000. Other sums and jewels were given by his wife. He attended some rites and ceremonies gone through in connection with this religion or philosophy in the neighborhood, and has described what it was. He says that his suspicions became aroused. He remonstrated with his wife for some time, and that finally it led to his telling his wife that she must choose between him and following the plaintiff as her leader and apostle; and that he also, about the same time, intimated to the plaintiff that he had been defrauded or that his wife had been, and that he intended to prosecute him criminally. That is the statement that substantially Mr. Specht makes. His wife goes into the box, and her evidence would lead you to believe that she and her husband had not been getting on well; that he was not an unbeliever, but as much a believer as she was, and that the money was given at his suggestion. She makes the troubles attributable to the desire of the husband to acquire her property. The husband has told us that he did endeavor to get out lunacy proceedings. He says the object was to separate her from Howard. Now, the wife, as I am pointing out, says this was not true. "All this was a desire on the part of my husband to get my property."

#### WHERE THE TRUTH LIES.

Very often we can find something which comes from the hand of one of the parties which will tell us where the truth lies, whether in this case the wife under influence has maligned her husband. The defense rely upon a letter written November 30, 1895, after Howard had come to Canada, to show whether all these difficulties were due to the husband's pressure upon the wife to give him the property.

This is what Mrs. Specht writes:

Washington, 11, 30, '95.

My Dear Joseph—The box containing the turkey and other good things came to hand Wednesday evening, and Miss Hemstreet and I

have enjoyed them ever since. The flowers, pinks, roses, chrysanthemums, all lovely, arrived Thursday, just as we were lamenting that she had forgotten to have a few flowers for Sallie, the house-keeper's wedding. She was married and left the same day. I will proceed now to try and explain to you, in an unbiased manner and with no thought in my mind or feeling in my heart but that of truth and kindness, entirely free from all judgment or malice. Let us put aside the question of religious differences for a moment altogether and look at this matter in a clear light. You know no human being can be the sole controller and arbiter of another one's inclinations and tendencies. A woman is bound to cherish her own individuality sacredly, married or not married. Now, you cannot imagine for one moment that if I was really the modern church woman you would wish me to be.

"The modern church woman you would wish me to be." Does that point to her husband desiring to get her property or that his story is true, that he desired her to give up her evil influence and live an ordinary life?

Now, you cannot imagine that if I was really the modern church woman you would wish me to be that any obscure country or city life could ever satisfy my ambition to work out what I would think my proper destiny? I would belong to literary clubs, go into first-class society, spend money lavishly on charity, etc. All my life I have secretly cherished the ambition to build some great institution to benefit man, so that I would have not lived in vain.

A woman of my active temperament would never be content with a purely domestic life. It is possible that in spite of our long married life we have not come into such close relationship that you could fully understand my longings, aims and ambitions of the past years. I hope you will believe me when I say that I have no other motive in writing you all this, save to prove my view of existing conditions, that I do not blame you for anything.

#### THE PLAIN ENGLISH.

"I do not blame you for anything." What does that mean? The wife, when asked for an explanation, says it was Christian forgiveness. Does it mean what the plain English indicates, or is it what she now suggests?

The agony the mere thought of separating from you caused me was so great that it threw me upon a bed of suffering, when I almost lost my life. I had no opportunity to show you, by indulging you in material luxuries, how I agonized over what has been the long, deep-rooted growth of years, nor will you ever know. This matter of our life-long companionship cannot be lightly broken, you well know; but even this cannot change what is irrevocable, viz., the conditions of our minds and what has also been the growth of years in our characters. I saw myself in the spirit at home trying very hard for hours to light our cooking-stove fire. Matches and paper

would light and invariably die out, without being able to ignite the fine kindling wood. You came and tried, oh, so hard, to do the same in vain. We both tried to relight our hearth fire. It was impossible. Our home fire had turned to dead ashes, and neither you nor I, nor both together, could relight it. The colored servant lit it easily and cooked dinner on it. That set me to thinking. Living in such constant companionship, with me, bound as I was to be to an idle life, unable to carry out any special plans of my own, our aims and lives would have grown wider and wider apart, when innumerable misunderstandings would have been the result. Two remedies alone would have healed the constant breaches between us. Had you humbled yourself to the dust and served God with all your heart, devoting all your energies, powers and money to Christ's cause, living just as he taught, a pure, self-sacrificing life, and I joined heart and soul with you; or, secondly, had you joined heart and soul with me in living as the aspirer of that which is holiest, highest and best in man and woman, been a sincere truth-seeker under the new dispensation, we would have both loved each other so purely and grown into each other as one, as man and wife should.

"Under the new dispensation." What does that mean? Is it not the fair inference that she asked that he would abandon all his past ideas, become a follower of the new dispensation and join with her? The answer to-day is that she asked that he would give up drink. Does that look like the way she, an intelligent woman, would have chosen to express the idea of abandoning a bad habit, or is it not plainly the expression of a wish that he should join this new religion, this new dispensation? It is for you to say.

### THE HIGHER TRUTHS.

You ask me to forget what I know of that which has become part of myself. These higher truths have become so ingrained into my being that not even death will disperse them; but even if I were perfectly willing and anxious to recant and honestly desired to abide by what you demand and desire, there are absolutely no positive means in my power to convince you for good, all and forever, that I was entirely free and uninfluenced forever from that which antagonizes you.

"That which antagonizes you." What does that mean? Do these words point to what the husband says is the truth, that he was asking her to come back to him, or to what she now suggests was the real difficulty?

Can you not see that there is a law here over which neither you nor I have full control? Which places us in the most pitiable plight. Shakespeare says: "Trifles light as air are proofs as strong as holy writ," to confirm suspicion. Some innocent action or word of mine, a chance newspaper paragraph, indeed, hundreds of irrelevant things, might arouse that which glows as an unextinguishable

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fire within you. On the other hand, what guarantee could I have, if I obeyed your will in this matter, that you fully trusted and believed me, or that you had changed your views of me? I am fully convinced that whether I do as you wish me to do or still pursue the course I have marked out for myself, that all attempts on our part to live the peaceful life God intends us to do by any reconciliation on our part will be futile and useless.

Matters must now, I am sad to say, with a heart forever broken, pursue the course inevitable under such unhappy and unfortunate conditions. As I understood you when you came to see me in October, it was your wish and mine. So let it be! The uprooting of that which it took twenty-eight, nay twenty-nine, years to plant and succor cannot be done in a short time.

The attorney for me has been in court all week. He says to please tell you it will be totally impossible to have any meeting next week, but week after next he can attend to it.

I know you will coincide with me in this matter, perfectly satisfied that our unhappy life lived in companionship would be far worse than separation. It is inevitable! I shall be glad to see you any time you may come to see me while matters are pending between us. Let us hope the agony may all soon be over for us both.

Your loving

EMMA.

#### WHY THIS SACRIFICE?

Now, gentlemen, what have you to say of this? The defense points to the fact that Mrs. Specht was living in luxury; that she had a wealthy husband, apparently devoted to her. All this is abandoned and a woman who moved in the best society of St. Louis, a city, as I suppose you know, of half a million of inhabitants, abandons her home and comes to a small town in Canada, takes her meals at a hotel and lives at the house in which this plaintiff lives. One has heard of sacrifices before, but the defense says, "For what has this woman sacrificed all this?" Of all the witnesses, has one been able to tell you, the defense say, even the name of the order to which they have given up their money and the control of their consciences to some extent? Has any one of them been able to tell you one of its doctrines or objects? And then the defense say, "Where is the man who is coming into court and who knows all this? Why is he not in the witness box? Why has he not been anxious to divulge all that is necessary to show that this is not a mockery, a fraud, taking the name of the Most High God in vain?" Of course he was not bound to go into the box; but you may ask yourselves whether in this case, a plaintiff seeking damages, ought not to have gone into the box and explained some of the matters that may remain in doubt. As the defense suggest, here is a woman who has given up all these things and has got nothing in return, not even an aspiration, not a single new hope. The conclusion ought to be, they say, that the woman has been influenced by somebody to do what she



has done. It is for you to say whether all this philosophy, all this mystery, was a mere scheme for getting money from credulous people, whose minds perhaps were open to the seed sown, whom a wily man could influence with the result of these wretched, unhappy lives and broken homes.

Mrs. Allen says you ought not to believe Specht, because she contradicts his statement that she went to Howard and wanted to live with him as his wife. He does not say that she has come to Howard and wanted to live with him as his wife. He says his wife told him that. It is a question which is telling the truth.

What kind of a doctrine is this, the defense says, which takes a woman away from her husband? Against his protest she quits him to follow the apostle of this new doctrine. There must be something wrong about it, according to the defendant.

Mrs. Morrey's evidence goes to support her mother in what is not contradicted.

### THE JOURNALIST'S DUTY.

Now, a journalist has a duty to perform in the community. If he prostitutes his columns to the fishing in every dirty pool for scandal, he deserves no sympathy, and when a jury found him publishing that, if it was libelous, public interest would be best served by stamping out that sort of thing. A journalist has no privilege, however worthy his motive. If the defendants have not satisfied you that their statements are justified, the plaintiff is entitled to recover. The questions for you to decide are, first, "Is the statement libelous or not?" and, second, if so, "Have they fully justified what they have published?" The money paid is to compensate the injury he has suffered. You may take a great many things into consideration. If you were satisfied that this plaintiff obtained this money that he might live upon it by inducing women, or men either, to come under his influence, hypnotic or whatever it might be, and that he was making use of the pretense that it was all in the name of the High God, all part of some ancient Eastern mystery, that it was all a sham, a mockery and a fraud, you may perhaps say that the sentinel that stood at the door, if he struck him hard enough, even if the blow was unlawful, might be excused. No man can calculate the harm such a man might do in this community. If such a man as he is alleged to be had come into this country, one would feel sympathy, at all events, with the sentinel who warned people against him.

The third charge—the allegation that he fled the country. Mr. Specht said that he warned the plaintiff that he intended to commence criminal proceedings. They went to Washington on May 11. He left, according to his own statement, leaving his property behind. He left and went to New York and New Jersey for two weeks and then came to Montreal. He came and passed a portion of the time under the name of Wilson. What was all this for? The defense say that indicates the man was fleeing the country, and

that it is a fair inference that he was fleeing to avoid arrest. As he explains it, he was warned by the attorney of Mrs. Specht that he had better get out of the country. Now do you believe that? He has not gone into the witness box to be examined before you. His lawyer has not called him. Which do you believe?

Now, gentlemen of the jury, the facts are entirely for you. You may think that I have a view of the facts, and I have a right to have a view, but I do not want to influence you. It is an important matter that the plaintiff should be treated fairly. He should not be found guilty, for that is what a verdict for the defendant would amount to unless the evidence warrants it. But if it does, it is equally your duty to pass on it. Is this article a libel in whole or in any part? Have the defense succeeded in proving it substantially true? If not, what are the damages?

### THE VERDICT.

The jury left the court after the chief justice had explained that the jurors could demand any of the papers filed in the case, if they required any of them to assist in arriving at their verdict.

Most of the spectators remained in the court, but Howard, the plaintiff, and his lady friends left the court as soon as his lordship's charge was concluded. After an absence of considerably less than five minutes the jury returned into court. There was not much excitement over the verdict, as it was generally expected how the case would go, and there was no surprise felt when the foreman rose in his place, and, in response to the usual inquiry of the clerk of the court, said: "Verdict for the defendant."

The chief justice briefly thanked the jury and discharged them.

Mr. Hogg, Q. C., at once asked for judgment under the verdict just given.

"You want costs against the plaintiff, I suppose, Mr. Hogg," remarked Sir William, with a smile.

"Yes, may it please your lordship," replied Mr. Hogg.

His lordship assented and left the bench.

Some of the exhibits filed before the commission were very interesting. A few of them follow, the first being a letter published by Howard in one of the St. Louis papers at the time he was lecturing out there.

### HOWARD'S FIRST LETTER TO MRS. SPECHT.

A. L. 6600, S. S., Du Roi, 88, A. D. 1887.

Emma H. Specht:

Gentle Lady—Some months ago a letter of yours was forwarded to me by one of my beloved pupils, soliciting an answer from his master to a question propounded therein. The answer has been thus long delayed awaiting the proper time to find in your soul such a condition of self-abnegation that would cause you to heed it.

From the Council of the Most High I am told to say, "Do it not." And, furthermore, would I speak with you touching another matter.

Your desire to publish the Hebrew Bible in the Hindoo tongue does much credit to your heart, and might do some good; but not to those whom you fondly hope to reach. For believe, gentle lady, our God has not left his faithful children in the Orient without a light and most enlightened teachers.

In the seclusion of their mountain homes, having formed from experience that while the Spirit of the Father is all-prevailing and everywhere exists, that the human soul, distracted by the things of the world, cannot or does not require that the calmness that will enable it to dwell continually under the glory of the sanctuary, they have retired to the purer atmosphere of the forest and the mountains upon the goodness and majesty of the Eternal Father, by which means they do acquire that purity and exaltation of soul in which they "walk and talk with God," as did Adam in the garden. You might place the Christian Bible in their hands, and could you meet them you would find brothers and sisters in the Lord who could instruct even you, as did the good Aquila and Priscilla when they "expounded the way of God more perfectly" to the noble Appollos; Acts 18:26. No, dear lady, you cannot disturb the faith of such as these; nor can you benefit them otherwise than in the joy that one child of God feels when he sees another one trying to do something that will honor the one great Father.

Scattered here and there throughout the world are our faithful ones, gathering up precious souls for the Kingdom of God, and instructing those who are worthy in the more perfect way. We would not disturb the hope of a single Christian soul, but would rather strengthen it and perfect it until they might find it truly revealed with Christ and God; nor have we anything contrary to the pure teachings of Jesus of Nazareth. Therefore, gentle lady, I pray you do not deem us the heathen you have been told, but rather esteem us friends who are laboring for the glory of God, our Father in the Earth. If you desire further conference with me, I will receive your communications through the channel of Colonel Price as now. And now, may the blessing of our God and the peace and joy of His Spirit descend upon and abide in your soul through the spirit of His Son, is the prayer of His most humble servant,

THE SAGE OF ARU.

Montreal, 11th June, 1891.

#### ANOTHER LETTER.

Mrs. E. E. H. Specht, 3723 Pine street, St. Louis, Mo.:

My Dear Chela—Your very welcome letter came to hand last evening. I presume it is quite unnecessary for me to assure you of the interest with which I had been looking forward to its receipt, knowing, as I did and do, that there will not be a stone left unturned to overthrow the work I have done in your city. My letter

to your son was not intended by any means to be a tribute to any one. It was the truth as I saw it, and my desire was to so impress upon the mind of my young friend that he might not be misled into taking a false step that he would live to regret all the rest of his life; also that it might not be said of me that I had knowingly allowed an opportunity to pass unimproved to sow the seed of peace and good will among men.

You know the watchers are always on the lookout for the failings of those who have named the Higher Name, and to bring charges against the very chosen sons of the Most High Gods.

I am sorry you gave my address to Col. Moore. It was my instructions for you to receive such communications yourself, and then forward them to me, and I would send my replies to you for distribution. This is what the office of secretary of our order means—it saves the Master from contact with the outer world and enables you to maintain your position of superiority as my confident and friend. When Col. Moore writes me, which I hardly expect that he ever will, for his interest in me being mostly curiosity, I will be obliged now to answer him direct or give a personal offense, because I cannot explain to him that he is nothing to me, though he were a thousand times a thirty-third degree Mason, for be it known unto you that the least one of my little class in St. Louis is more precious in our sight than the whole fraternity, my children in the love of God, precious souls born into the Kingdom of the Spirit in the fullness of time, souls for which I am responsible in the sight of the Father. Can you not see your relationship to me has nothing in common with the exoteric brotherhood now called Masons?

If I could bear you continually in my arms, and so preserve you from the evil that must assuredly come upon you, how thankful I would be you will never know, for it is only those to whom God has committed the care of human souls that can know the love for such souls.

You must not think I am finding fault with what you did. I am only showing you how our order works. It is the most secret order in the world, and we never tell to outsiders who are its members under any circumstances whatsoever. I am not the master to such as he; he thinks he is just as wise and just as holy as any man.

#### AN UNKNOWN COUNCIL.

In our order the supreme control is vested in an unknown council. The master is not known, and if I were receiving my proper respect I should be protected from the troublesome contact with the gross financial cares and left free to pursue the higher things of the Spirit, and by this means all the brotherhood would be blest; but as it is I am worried from day to day to provide the means to keep the necessities of life in the house, and if I were to refuse to work for the sick because they were unable to pay my fees, I would stand

condemned before the angels as one who was prostituting my God-given powers for earthly gain. See?

Therefore, I must work, pay or no pay. Again, I cannot under present conditions of living, use my higher powers to heal the sick, only such as are born of my own experience and knowledge, while I should be able to command all the life-giving forces of nature.

This is why I am so anxious to get our home established as soon as possible. And now this brings me to the question of the Daniel's property. I have nothing to say about what Mr. Specht may desire to do with it, if he desires to purchase it for a personal home. I certainly have no objection, for we have no money to enter into competition with him. All I can say is that I think it will make you a most beautiful home if you can enjoy it.

Speaking of patients, have you any view?

My visit to Missouri, which was undertaken on a moment's notice, owing to the necessity to redeem our cause from the errors of its first introduction to the St. Louis public, has completely upset my business here, and I would like to have three or four good-paying people come on at once, to enable me to meet my current expenses.

Do you hear anything more of Mrs. Mason Smith?

I am a little disappointed that she has not said something about her absence from our last meeting.

Have you heard anything from Miss Garvey lately? What kind of a notice did we get in her paper? I am very anxious for the well being of my little flock that may be kept in the power of the Spirit and the newness of life as it is in God. You are as children who have come into a new and stronger light than you have ever known before, and it is very difficult for you to discern between this true light and the false lights that are the first to meet your vision, and I pray God to strengthen you where you are weak and to guide you where you lack experience.

Allow me to thank you for the help you gave to our dear Mrs. Allen. She is a precious soul, to whom has been entrusted great possibilities.

Give my paternal love to all of your little band.

For your dear daughter and yourself accept the Master's blessing.

My most kindly remembrance to the rest of your family.

I am your faithful friend and sponsor

N. B.—(In Howard's handwriting.)

Mrs. Howard just asked me if I had remarked your kind message to herself, and I said no. Then you just better do it, she said, or I will write myself, so as to save you. My darling wife's kind regards.

My new machine is not working quite smoothly yet. It sometimes prints one letter over another.

# DR. HOWARD'S PHILOSOPHY.

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The Indian Yogi and Their Peculiar Tenets.

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## A LETTER FROM THE DOCTOR.

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It Was One of the Exhibits in the Big Libel Trial at Perth.

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(Continued from yesterday.)

Among the exhibits filed with the evidence of the commission to the United States, which played such an important part in the big libel trial at Perth, was the following letter written by Dr. Howard, and published by him in one of the St. Louis papers while he was lecturing there:

### THE HINDOO YOGI.

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A PECULIAR SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHERS AND ITS TENETS.

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LIFE DEVOTED TO CONTEMPLATION OF THE HUMAN SOUL  
AND ITS RELATION TO THE DIVINE SOUL—HOW THE  
MIND IS WITHDRAWN FROM THINGS EARTHLY BY AR-  
TIFICIAL AID.

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The peculiar school of Hindoo philosophers known as the Yogi are a much misunderstood people; and this, no doubt, is in a great measure due to the fact that the persons who are called Yogins, and who are the ones seen by the people, are not the real philosophers, but, rather, a class of ascetics who practice only the exoteric branch of the Yoga.

The Yogi may with perfect propriety be divided into two quite different branches, the first being those of whom we hear and see the most. These people practice austerities so severe as to amount to nothing short of physical torture. As an example of this, mention may be made of a few of the most common practices in vogue among them. When an aspirant has determined upon the form of the austerity he will adopt, he then selects the place where his meditations shall be conducted. You can see young men and old sitting, usually in some quiet place, staring into vacancy with an

absorbed, unseeing gaze, perfectly oblivious to all outward things passing around them. Sometimes they will have one hand thrust out straight, sometimes across the breast, or it may be behind the back; or yet, again, it may be the arm has been bent so that the closed hand rests in the axilla. At other times it may be the foot or leg is put into some unnatural position, which, long continued, must produce exquisite physical torture. The position, once taken, is never abandoned, and it is often quite sickening to see the torture, self-inflicted, these poor, deluded creatures bear, not only without, but with apparent absolute unconsciousness of bodily pain. Just fancy what determination they must be possessed of to enable them to carry the arm for years in the one position, the hand bent up into the arm pit, and held there until, from inaction, the muscles have shrunk away, leaving the joints rigid and the arm a mere shriveled incubus, while the finger nails, from being long uncut, are growing like claws through the withered palm; the body clothed in rags and covered with—well, say dirt. They never ask or seek for food, but depend entirely upon the chance dish of rice which some kind-hearted native may bring to their bowl, and drinking water for their gourd. This utter indifference is at first, of course, assumed, and maintained by the strength of will; at last, however, it becomes an acquired faculty.

This is called the impetuous system, and is not approved of in the Yoga Sutras, because it does not yield the results looked for and obtained by the true Yogi. It is, however, along the same line as those Christian orders who follow literally the advice of St. Paul: "If ye live after the flesh ye shall die; but if ye through the spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live," and who for this purpose wear sackcloth, scourge themselves and practice all manner of devices to humiliate and afflict the poor body, that they may overcome the man in themselves, and so become worthy to inherit heaven, with its house of many mansions. It is historically recorded that a certain female saint of Christian Spain boasted, "She has not washed herself for more than sixty years, and King Philip destroyed the public baths which the Moors had built, "Because," he said, "bathing is not Christian practice." But really it does not seem so bad to have Christians starve and beat themselves for Jesus' sake and to win saintly honor, as it does for the dark-skinned Hindoo to sit around under the shade of the mighty Banyan tree, nearly naked, half starved and quite oblivious to their unpleasant condition, lost in contemplating the nature and possibilities of the soul. The one is heathen and the other Christian, you know.

The class of persons above described, although great ascetics, are not the ones properly called the Yogi.

### THE SANKHYA SYSTEM.

The Yogi with whom it is our present purpose to deal are a sect or school of philosophers, whose speculations have to do with the

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subject of the soul in its abstract sense; also do with the subject of the soul and its relations to the Divine soul. The name *Yogan* means one who observes the rules of Yoga. Yoga is the second division of the Sankhya system. There are really six systems called *Daranas*, into which the speculations of the ages of the almost forgotten past have been collected, and, so to speak, codified. The term Yoga, as here used, is, perhaps, best rendered as meaning concentration, and is a derivation from the Sanskrit word "Yug," to join in the sense of blending. Hence the object of the Yoga practice is to produce a condition of blending of the individual soul of the devotee with the universal soul. The intelligence of the universe is the soul of God, the name used being *Iswara*-Lord, or God. It is desirable at this point to call attention to the fact that the *Yoga Sutras* does not deal with God the Infinite as the Infinite Supreme Being, but as the Universal Supreme Soul. The reason why it is deemed best to draw attention at this early stage to this distinction is to prevent confusing the soul with the spirit; because, unless this distinction is preserved, we are liable to fall into the common error and so miss the whole meaning of the Yoga system. Therefore, always remember, while reading of the *Yoga Sutras* that they do not deal with the subject of the spirit at all. This is the great mistake of all modern translators, whether Hindoo or European. Pantanjali, who was the compiler of the Yoga system, speaks of the infinite soul, of the eternity of the soul, of the universal soul, etc., and, as before remarked, he uses the word *Iswara*, but not as *Brahma* (neuter). He defines *Iswara* as a particular *Purusha*. Now, according to the Vedic use of the word *Purusha*, it means a combination of imparted energies conferred upon an individual, usually a special creation, as in this case, the purpose of whose existence is to create offspring; and as all things are created after their kind, in accordance with nature's law, so from *Purusha* *Iswara*, the universal soul, "springs all souls as the sparks from a fire." Pantanjali further defines *Iswara* as the one "in whom the germ of omniscience reaches its utmost limit, and whose appellation is 'Om,' the term of glory." From it comes all knowledge of *Iswara*.

*Iswara*, then, is what might most properly be called the soul of God, as in contradistinction to the Spirit of God-Spirit being life and energy, soul being knowledge of the faculty by which things are perceived, compared and known. The human soul, we are told, is a part of the universal soul, the offspring of *Iswara*, that is imprisoned in the body for a time and for a purpose; and that purpose is to give intelligence to the matter which has been organized and vivified by the spirit of life into a living mass, with power to act, and requiring the presence and influence of the soul-knowledge to guide and control its energies to some useful end.

The intention of the *Yoga Sutras* is to teach mankind how to re-establish the union of the personal with the universal soul, and to maintain this union while our souls are yet imprisoned in their earthly tenement. Pantanjali says: "Man is kept apart from the



supreme and infinite existence by various obstacles, such as his restlessness and activity. These must be hindered by a repeated effort to keep the mind in a modified state, or by dispassion, which is the consciousness of having overcome all desires for objects that are seen on earth or read of in the Scriptures."

He then proceeds to enumerate the various methods by which this end may be accomplished. There are many artificial aids to this. One of the principal physical actions is that of regulating the breath, which is divided under three heads, viz: Inspiration, expiration and suppression. (It is most singular to note the effect of this effort upon the senses when it is done properly and according to the rules prescribed.) The act of regulating the breath is called in the Sanskrit Pranayama, and full directions as to the preparations for and the mode of performing the same are carefully taught, because it is as dangerous for the untaught, or profane, as it is beneficial to those who have the proper knowledge. "By restraining," says the great teacher and Yogin, "the devotee gains a knowledge of the past and future, a knowledge of the sounds of all animals, of all that has happened before, of the thoughts of others, of the time of his own death, a knowledge of all that exists in the different worlds and the structure of his own body."

#### MODERN INVESTIGATION.

It is interesting to note how closely the investigations of the most improved systems of the modern scientific physical experiments have followed along the path of the Hindoo Yogi, and one who knows the condition produced by Pranayama is inclined to wonder why such daring observers as Charcot have not carried their experiments a little further, and found for themselves how wonderful are the things they might know. However, they display wisdom in not carrying their inquiry too far. Unless it is conducted strictly on the Yogi system, the mode or rules for which were well understood before the days of Pantanjali, the result may be neither beneficial nor pleasant to the subject. This is not a foolish saying, thrown out to appear mysterious, but a fact often seen and never understood except by the adepts who know; and, lest you may think so, we will call attention to the fact well known that a subject under hypnotic control is deaf to every voice except that of the operator, blind to all that he does not wish him to see and dumb to every one except **to him whose will dominates the mind.** It is plain, therefore, that in the case of hypnotic control, the subject has lost something from his normal state; and this is not a single faculty, nor is it all the faculties of the mind. This lost something seems to be partly the intuition, both of which are dominated by the ruling force of another's mind in the active stage. By means of this obscuring of the senses in the subject the operator is enabled to call forth a latent power or sub-consciousness, by which he can bring this newly developed faculty of the subject into contact with persons and things

entirely removed from the normal state of the subject's mind, or, for that matter, from his **personal knowledge**.

The experiments in physical phenomena ever since the days of Mesmer have been trying in vain to understand the why in all these matters, and to explain by what element of the mind they are able to produce such results. They have found that by the use of certain drugs a condition can be produced which in part resembles the effect of hypnotism; but no drug can do so entirely, because it is lacking in the matter of the active dominating will. Again, where drugs are used as a stimulant, a condition similar to the trance ecstasy may be secured. But it is without system, reason or control, while it further differs from the former by leaving the subject open to be acted upon by any influence or intelligence that may for the time being choose to assume the control while the mind is thus unbalanced. The use of any drug operation or process by which the mind of the individual can be thrown out of its normal balance, such as God—Iswara—first established, is a sin against the soul of the individual, is a sin against the universal soul, because it interferes with the independence of action of the individual soul, and assumes a prerogative, which the Infinite God Himself will not exercise. God does not in any case interfere with the exercise of man's free will in matters of the mind only. This fact is fully recognized in the Darsanas, and no pious Brahmin will exercise such a mastery over the mind of his pupil. It is a sin. Nor will he do so even to an enemy, because he must in a measure become identified with the evil that is in the mind of that individual enemy. Therefore, the followers of the Rag-Veda are positively restrained from such an exercise of the will as against another. It is, however, one of the highest aims of a pious Hindoo to cultivate within himself that condition by which he can knowingly and intelligently place his individual soul in sympathetic union with the universal soul.

Throwing aside all disguises, the Yoga practice has for its object the two-fold purpose; first, of teaching the devotee how to elevate his own soul above the influences of things pertaining to time and sense to that condition of self-renunciation by which all desires of the material man are overcome that might otherwise disturb the sublime quiet necessary to the contemplation of the divine "nature of the soul;" and, second, to teach him how to preserve himself from the influence of passing intelligences or of disembodied souls, while he is in this perfectly passive state (called Samadhi).

### PREScribed POSTURES.

The student of the Yoga system begins to exercise himself in a series of prescribed postures, in which he perfects himself as an athlete does when preparing for feats of physical endurance; and after having obtained a certain degree of proficiency, he commences pranayama, of the art of regulating the breathing at the same period concentrating the mind to contemplate the mystery of Is-

wara. It must be remembered the mind, as here had in view, is not in mind in its active state as an energy; but rather the intuition faculty of the soul, placed by means of certain set formula into sympathetic harmony with the universal. In this attitude of the individual toward the universal soul the mind of the operator becomes aware of what is passing outside the limited circle of his personal surroundings, and which pertains to the knowledge of things universal. It is presumed to be understood that while stating the facts regarding this system of personal indorsement is offered. However, it may be remarked that the Yoga system finds its analogy partly in the course pursued to develop a medium among the spiritualists, and also in the development of a lucide under hypnotic domination as practiced by the present French school.

The reason why it becomes necessary to mention both of these is this: The Yoga is in a certain sense self-hypnotized; but with this difference between him and the hypnotized one, that in the latter case the condition is induced through the agency of the senses, active in observation, the eyes being fixed upon something which attracts and holds the attention; but the Yogin turns his vision inward, and contemplates Iswara as within his own body, having his eyes directed to the seat of the solar plexuses of nerves. The difference in the developing medium and the Yoga student consists in the fact that the medium's mind is made as near a blank as possible, so that a sufficiently passive state may be reached for the purpose of inviting a communication with the souls of the disembodied, which are still individual, and the highest development ever obtained by such medium is to be able to receive and transmit personal communications of a specific and personal character, while the Yogin arms himself against this very sort of thing by cutting off all communication of a personal nature, and leaping past the particular, securing union with the universal soul.

Again, in the case of the hypnotized subject, we find the will of the lucide is only passive as regards self, but is dominated by the active will of the operator through whose agency a sub-conscious faculty of observation, latent in every soul, is forced into action. Instead of this, the soul of the Yogin is joined to the universal soul—passive—with which he, for the time being, becomes identified; so the soul of the individual coalesces with and is absorbed into the course of all knowledge, which is Iswara (Soul of God). In this condition he can in very truth say: "Now I know as I am known."

The true devotee does not enter upon his course with any view to self-aggrandizement or the acquirement of supernatural powers for display before an astonished or credulous audience of less gifted mortals; nor does he practice such acts of physical torture as the persons described in the beginning of this article. The object he has in view is far too holy for any such display, and he would shun it as he would the bite of an angry cobra. As before stated, he seeks to know and be identified with the universal soul—as Iswara,

the knowledge of God—and this is one of the greatest acquirements possible to man, and the very highest possible to him as soul. This is Yogism, or the science of the soul. But this sort of soul philosophy is not taught as the highest science of the Rig-Vida. The system of the Vegas is the last of the Darsanas, and it deals exclusively with the spirit, or man as an active agent, self-responsible, and his relation of the Infinite Spirit, as the active energy of God-Brahma.

*G. L. Howard*

**MRS. SPECHT'S ANSWER TO HOWARD'S FIRST LETTER TO  
HER, WHEREIN SHE IS ADDRESSED AS "GENTLE  
LADY."**

To the Reverend and Respected Master, the Sage of Aru:

Before opening your letter, most esteemed Sage and teacher, I felt the solemnity and sacredness of the duty that devolved upon me to receive it in the proper spirit and the inexpressible weight and bearing it would have been upon my destiny. Not daring to hasten the opening of it, I whispered for aid and guidance from the Christ on high, who never fails me when I abide in the pure rays of the sanctified presence, my eyes lighted upon the words of Isaiah iv., 6-24th verses: And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the Lord out of all nations, etc., etc. I had felt some intuitive perception, unwilling within me at times during the last few months, that there was some one of your holy order endeavoring to communicate with me, and I told the precious Father that I knew if expedient for me I would receive it at the proper time, and so I now consign myself into His keeping, duty, like Paul, who says, "I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transferred by the renewing of your mind, that ye may have that what is good and acceptable and perfect, will of God." And I read, "Do it not." The profoundest depths of my soul were stirred and which sunk within me into reveries of—

But there is a very tried impression that the Great All Father has wisdom; wisdom, righteous love, not that the wisdom by which we gain the Holy Ones being affinity. And so I fain would prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." For has He not said in Isaiah iv., 11, 20th verse:

"And I will bring the blind by the way that they know not. I will lead them in paths that they have not known; I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them and not forsake them." I have not destroyed my manuscript, but I have abandoned it, and will not take it with me to the country unto which I journey in a few days. And as

I now consign what has been to me the work of a lifetime, almost very many lovely and beautiful Rhapsadism, much physical and intellectual knowledge, very great life lessons and soul-inspiring troubles (but no solemn holy mysteries), have thus found their burial. I was part of my life, my companion, for many years, and the deep soul hunger of a child of God, who sees millions perishing for the look of even a little knowledge, must now be quenched, who would fain touch them some crumbs, for all right words, bring and holy.

I can do all things through Christ which strengthen me. (Phil., 14:13.) But, alas! it was after all but the humanly devised—of a humble; and there was one object with which it dealt which causes deep anxiety and mortification, and of this I am forever relieved. I think the Divine God's sigh of infinite gratitude goes up as incense to the sweet, precious, and whose presence and leadings are mine. I will rest satisfied to feel the untold privileges have been vouchsafed unto me by the precious Lord, who am but an humble woman, and can never aspire to the light of——. Thanks, dear master, for your disinterested living interest in this matter. Ah, I tell you my heart jubilates and rejoices with rapturous—when I read of the dear ones so far sundered from me, who nevertheless live in that pure, holy calm of Spiritual, endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the land of peace—and if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and be fellow-helper to the truth. Ah, yes; the charity and love inculcated by unloved Christ does not allow the true believers to judge of His human children. "Judge not that ye may not be judged, for with what ever measure you meet it shall be meted unto you." May not, who am I but a fallible mortal that I should arrogate unto myself the tremendous responsibility and presumption of consigning my Hindoo japs, chieftains, and to any sort of alienship from the great Father of us all. How do I know what that spirit is that worketh with man from the beginning: If they shall not reign in Christ, hence, are these not other spheres? But my heart aches for the condition of the women in general of my own sex and the innocent littleness. But, on the other hand, my heart walls forth anguish of spirit at the dreadful spectacle we present to the world collectively as Christians, being so totally contrary to the teachings of Christ, that mysterious God principle who has hovered over and worked with humanity for untold ages, and was incarnated for the purpose of combatting and counteracting the insidious intriguing power of Satan and his tribes of evil, that antagonistic force, alas! was never created as well to —— was also a power of good, wherefore, that conflict. Why is man so prone to forget his high duty?

EMMA E. H. SPECHT.

# HOWARD IN PRESCOTT, Ont., in 1889 and 1890.

The following exhibit is furnished by the Deputy Register, Mr. James Clint, being an official copy from the Register's Office in the town of Prescott, the sale of the estate having occurred February 26, 1890 :

*IN THE MATTER OF*

## THE ESTATE OF G. S. HOWARD,

*OF PRESCOTT, INSOLVENT.*

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First and Final Dividend Sheet, showing 10 cts. on the Dollar.

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### PRIVILEGED CLAIMS.

I. D. Purkis (Office Rent).....	\$60 00
Goldie & McCullough (on Safe) .....	18 75
Celsus Price (Salary—3 months).....	120 00
Maria Fraser (House Rent).....	25 00
Quintus Price (Salary—3 months).....	120 00
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## ORDINARY CLAIMS.

NAME.	CLAIM.	DIVIDEND.
Wm. Foster Brown & Co.....	\$14 33	\$1 43
Arthur Jordan.....	10 00	1 00
John S. Huntington.....	8 00	80
Isaac W. Plumb.....	32 00	3 20
Celsus Price.....	80 00	8 00
Harper Willard.....	16 65	1 67
W. G. Robinson.....	2 50	25
R. W. Ross & Co.....	56 42	5 64
Carman & McDonald.....	26 11	2 61
F. F. Prouse.....	9 50	95
Cooper & Judge.....	12 00	1 20
Louis H. Daniels.....	31 50	3 15
Albert Davis.....	36 00	3 60
Assignee of J. R. Wrightson.....	3 00	30
A. O. Harding.....	8 73	87
Bradley & Co.....	108 57	10 88
W. S. Brown & Co.....	18 77	1 88
James Smith.....	52 70	5 27
Thomas Fisher.....	36 83	3 68
Keeler & Mason.....	4 28	43
Norton Miller.....	3 30	33
Joseph Tanner.....	4 00	40
Jas. A. Ogilvy & Sons, about (claim not proven)..... [\$2.50 held till claim proved.]	25 00	2 50
	600 19	60 02

If no objections to the above, the several amounts will be paid in eight days from this date.

JAMES CLINT, TRUSTEE.

Prescott, Ont., March 8th, 1890.

## RECEIPTS.

Total amount received from Household Furniture, Barn, Tools, Buggies, &c.....	\$352 98
Medicine sold by Mr. Price (to apply on his claim).....	40 00
Received from sale of Balance of Contents of Office.....	127 03
	520 01

## DISBURSEMENTS.

By Paid for Transfer Two Policies of Insurance.....	\$1 00
“ for taking stock in Office and assistance making inventory.....	5 00
“ John Robinson, posting bills.....	75
“ Printing Account, <i>Messenger</i> .....	14 46
“ for assistance getting ready for sale, and at and after sale, including Auctioneer's fees.....	20 00
“ One month's Rent of House.....	8 34
“ “ Office.....	5 00
“ for closing opening made in old barn by removal of new one.....	1 00
“ for Cleaning House.....	75
“ Solicitor's account, Messrs. French & Saunders.....	27 90
“ Page, stationery, distributing dodgers and other incidentals...	6 04
“ Assignee's commission, 5 per cent.....	26 00
“ Preferential claims.....	343 75
“ Dividend on ordinary claims at 10 cents on the dollar.....	60 02
	520 01



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"He fled to Canada either to avoid giving evidence or to evade arrest, and in Canada he has remained ever since. The winters may be cold here and Gunston may be warm, but he prefers the cold north, with a fur overcoat, to Fairfax County gaol."—From the address to the jury by Mr. OSLER, Q. C. (of Toronto), representing the defense in the trial.



